Dance in the Vampire Bund

NOZOMU TAMAKI

VOLUME 4

Tamaki Nozomu Presents Dance In The Vampire Bund 4

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4
環　望

In deiner Brust sind deines Schicksals Sterne.

Vertrauen zu dir selbst, Entschlossenheit

Ist deine Venus.

The star of fate sleeps within your breast.

Look only to yourself for rescue.

Resolve ——

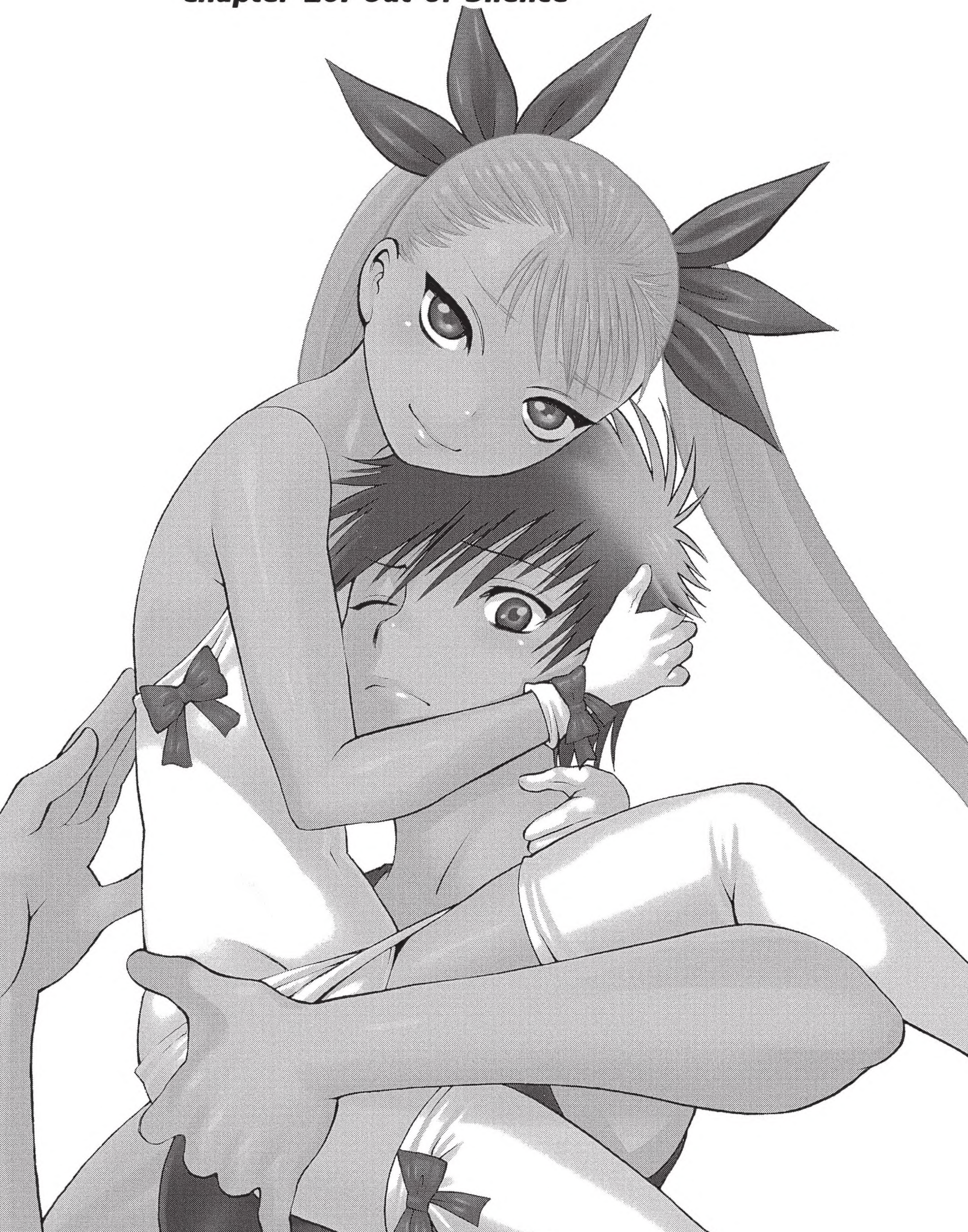
She alone is your Goddess.

Schiller

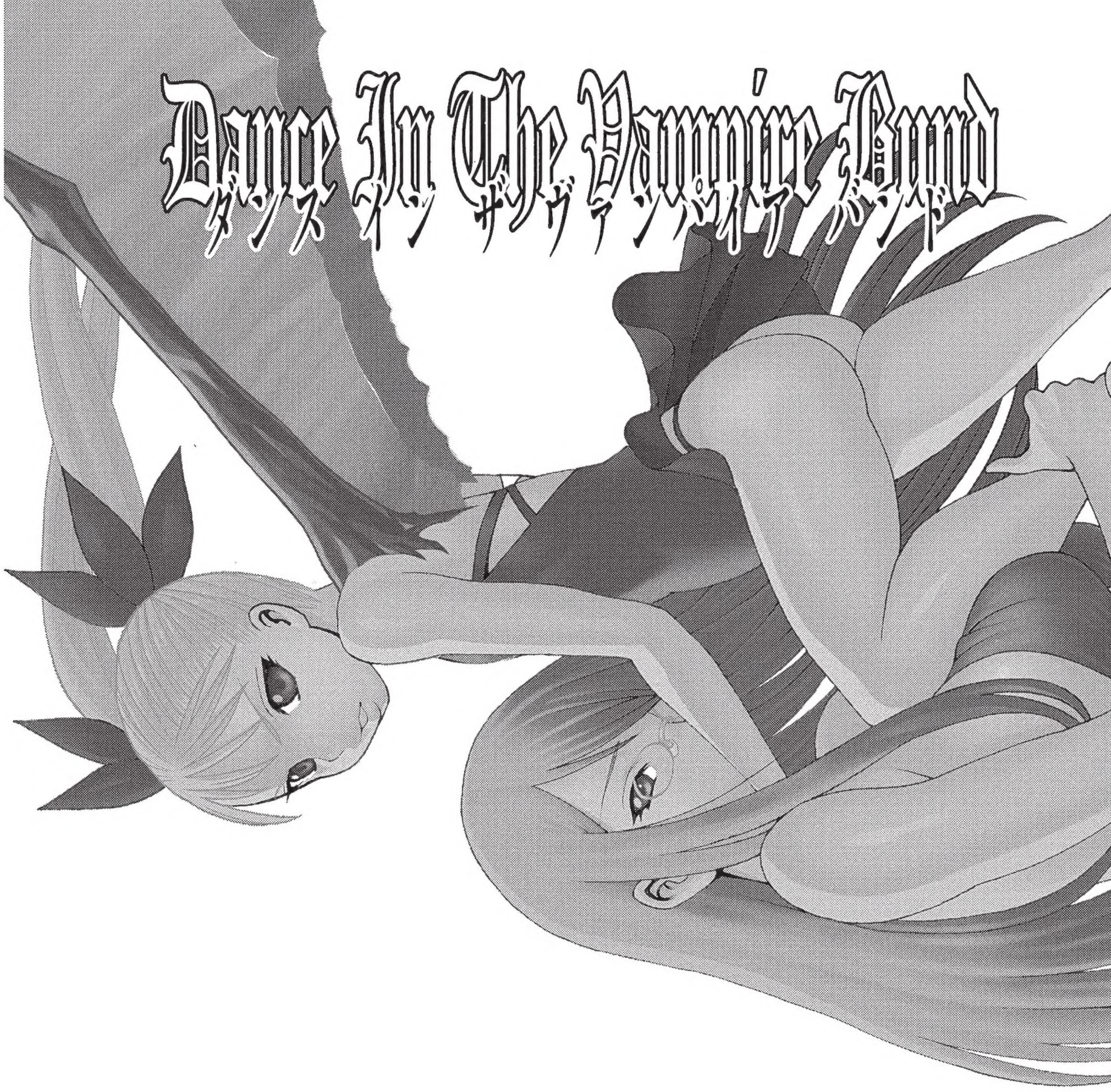
Wallenstein, Die Piccolomini I.I-6

In deiner Brust sind deines Schicksals Sterne. Vertrauen zu dir selbst, Entschlossenheit Ist deine Venus.
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Chapter 20: Out of Silence



Dance In The Vampire Bund



HUSHABYE BABY...

DON'T YOU CRY...

MY DARLING CHILD...

YOUR LITTLE SMILE...

BRINGS SUCH JOY TO MY HEART.

STAY LIKE THIS ALWAYS...

OH, MY TINY INNOCENT ONE...


WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?
.....

YOU'VE BEEN MOPING ABOUT RECENTLY, SO I THOUGHT I'D TRY TO CHEER YOU UP.

WAIT A MO-MENT.

PERHAPS ...

I THOUGHT I'D PRACTICE SMILING.

AND *WHY* ARE YOU PRACTICING SMILING?

"WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD?"

I KNOW! IT'S GUARANTEED TO WORK! LISTEN TO THIS ONE, AKIRA!!

HE SAID HE COULDN'T THINK IN HERE...

AKIRA-KUN JUST LEFT...

OH.

HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS EVER SINCE HIKOSAKA DIED IN FRONT OF HIM IN THE SUBWAY LAST WEEK.

WHAT'S WRONG, HIME-SAMA?

DAMN IT! WHY DO I EVEN **BOTHER** WORRYING ABOUT HIM?!

STOMP STOMP

AKIRA-KUN IS VERY *SENSITIVE*... THAT'S JUST HOW HE IS.

SO *THAT'S* WHAT IT IS.

HE'S BEEN UPSET... BECAUSE HE COULDN'T SAVE HIM.

IF HER MAJESTY HADN'T COME TO MY AID, I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE DIED AS WELL.

I DON'T THINK IT COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED ...

HOWEVER, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO TO CHANGE THE PAST...

HE NEEDS TO GROW UP AND SOON.

IT TAKES MORE THAN JUST KINDNESS TO BE ONE OF *MY* KNIGHTS.

YOU DON'T WANT HIM TO CHANGE ONE BIT, DO YOU?

WHAT ...?

HEE HEE ...

AKIRA-KUN DOESN'T SMILE ANYMORE ...

REALLY? WHY, THANK YOU.

IT WASN'T A COM-PLI-MENT.

OCCASION-ALLY, YOU CAN BE *VERY* PERCEP-TIVE...

YOU'RE RIGHT...

I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM TRULY RELAXED AND HAPPY...

HE DOESN'T LAUGH EITHER.

OR WHEN HE DOES, IT'S A FORCED GRIN FOR A PICTURE... OR SOME-THING.

I DON'T REMEMBER... WHEN HE STOPPED TALKING AS MUCH.

BUT NOW...

HE WASN'T ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

AKIRA-KUN? *REALLY* ?

HE USED TO BE REALLY FUNNY AND FRIENDLY TO EVERYONE.

HE'D JUST WATCH PEOPLE FROM THE OUTSIDE.

HE'D PLAY THESE WEIRD PRANKS AND MAKE EVERYBODY LAUGH...

HE WAS ALWAYS THE CLASS CLOWN.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.

BUT...

NOW HE FEELS SO FAR AWAY.

I'M HERE *NOW*... THANKS TO HIM BACK THEN...

LONG AGO, THAT SMILE WAS MY SALVATION.

WELL, THEN.

THAT JUST GIVES ME MORE MOTIVATION TO MAKE HIM SMILE AGAIN.

HIME-SAMA...

YES?

HIME-SAMA, IT'S VERA-SAMA.

HERE.

IRRRR

.....

WHAT?

HN...

I SEE...

OH, I'LL GO AND LET AKIRA-KUN KNOW!

NANAMI, WE'RE RETURNING TO THE BUND.

IMMEDI-ATELY.

YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL HIM.

YUKI, WAIT.

IT'S FINE.

WHAT? BUT--

YUKI... I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.

WILL YOU LISTEN?

HIME-SAMA...?

AKIRA-KUN...

GRAHAM, OPEN YOUR EYES!!

KRSSH

I WISH... I WISH I COULD HAVE TALKED TO YOU MORE...

AND THEN MAYBE...

GRAHAM!!

KOFF...

IT'S NOT...

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.

IT'S OKAY, AKIRA...

I'M...

GRAHAM, I...

HANG ON, GRAHAM!

HANG ON!

THE LIMO'S HERE AL-READY ...?

THAT'S UNUSUAL.

VRRRM

!

VRRROOM

HIME-SAN...?

.....

I'VE SENT MARQUIS BORGIANI AND MARQUIS DERMAILLE TO MEET THEM.

AND THE RECEP-TION?

THE SHIP IS PREPARING TO MAKE LANDFALL AT THE PIER.

VERA, STATUS REPORT.

BUT I NEVER THOUGHT THEY WOULD COME HERE *THEMSELVES.*

I WAS EXPECTING A REACTION OF SOME KIND SOONER OR LATER...

NONE OTHER THAN HYSTERICA'S PUPPET MASTERS.

UM... IF I COULD ASK A QUESTION ...

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE YOU'RE MEETING?

YES...

THEY ARE MY BLOOD-RETAIN-ERS...

AND...

MY ANCIENT ENEMIES!

ガシ

KA-CHUNK

ゴゴゴゴ

SWF

KREEK

THEY WHO ONCE RULED IN *GLORY*, FAR AND WIDE...

THEIRS IS THE LINEAGE OF THE TRUE BLOOD...

THE LAST SURVIVORS OF THE HUNDRED VAMPIRE CLANS.



WE ARE DEEPLY HONORED THAT YOUR GRACES HAVE TROUBLED YOURSELVES TO VISIT US.

WELCOME TO THE NEW SEAT OF THE TEPES DYNASTY.

I DO NOT SEE HER MAJESTY...

DOES THE QUEEN THINK TO MAKE *LIGHT* OF US?!

SHE IS NOT HERE?!

IN TRUTH, YOUR GRACES' ARRIVAL WAS SO SUDDEN THAT...

HER MAJESTY CURRENTLY AWAITS YOUR GRACES' PLEASURE WITHIN.

MY MOST HUMBLE APOLO-GIES!

FOR-GIVE ME!!

THAT ...

THAT IS NOT...

IT IS *OUR* MISTAKE, THEN?

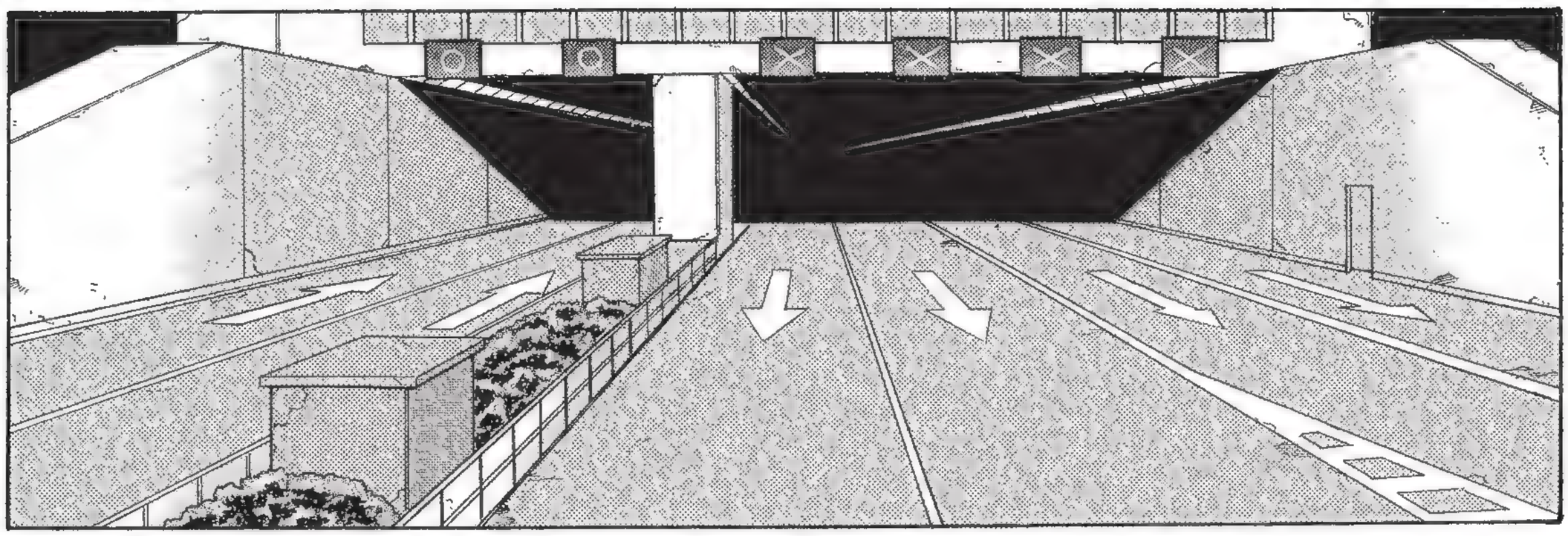
OH...?

DON'T MAKE SUCH SPORT OF THE RIFFRAFF.

IVANOVIC, LI...

LEAD ON!

LET US REGARD THIS NEW VAMPIRIC KINGDOM AS WE AWAIT HER MAJESTY'S ARRIVAL.




WHY WOULD HIME-SAN LEAVE ME BEHIND AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
THAT'S NOT SOMETHING TO TAKE LIGHTLY!
WHAT?! THE THREE CLANS ?!!


BE RIGHT THERE!
ANYWAY, JUST GET OVER HERE, FAST!!
YUKI-SAMA, HER MAJESTY IS CALLING FOR YOU.
H-HEY!


I DON'T KNOW! SHE JUST TOLD ME TO COME WITH HER!
AND WHY ARE YOU THERE, YUKI?!

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO GO OUT AND MEET THEM?!

THEY COULD BE PLANNING SOME-THING...

DON'T THEY WANT TO KILL YOU, HIME-SAMA?

YUKI.

NOW I'M DRESSED AND READY FOR BATTLE.

FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS.

DON'T WORRY.

THEY CAN'T HARM ME DIRECTLY...

IN THE END, A QUEEN DOES NOTHING BUT PLAY ENDLESS GAMES OF CHESS.

THEY CAN EVADE.

THEY CAN THREA-TEN.

BUT THEY CAN TRICK.

NO!

I WON'T ALLOW HIM TO BE CLOSE TO THIS.

AT LEAST *WAIT* UNTIL AKIRA GETS HERE!

HE'LL BE HERE SOON!

MY...

TRUE FORM ...

IT IS BECAUSE THIS *IS* SO IMPOR-TANT...

IF HE WERE HERE, HE MIGHT SEE...

BUT WHY...? IT'S SO DANGEROUS!

WHY ARE YOU PUSHING HIM AWAY?

AKIRA-KUN, HURRY...

HIME-SAMA...

ENOUGH.

HURRY...!

I CANNOT !!

I WILL *NOT* BE BEATEN.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

LET ME PASS NOW!!

DAMN. WHAT COULD SHE BE THINKING ...?

"KABURAGI AKIRA IS NOT TO BE ADMITTED INTO THE BUND. KEEP HIM OUT UNTIL ORDERED OTHERWISE."

IT WAS A DIRECT ORDER FROM HER MAJESTY.

I SEE...

IF YOU CONTINUE, WE'LL HAVE TO USE FORCE...

STOP!

WE HAVE OUR OR-DERS!

WHAT-EVER. LET ME IN NOW!

IT'S AN EMER-GENCY!

V.G.S

SHLOKK

SPLAT

SHOW YOUR-SELF!!

AH...

TWITCH TWITCH

SWISH

SPLIIK

KA-KRAAK

FWOOSH

HER MAJ-ESTY MINA HAS AR-RIVED!



WHAT...

WHAT THE HELL IS SHE...!?

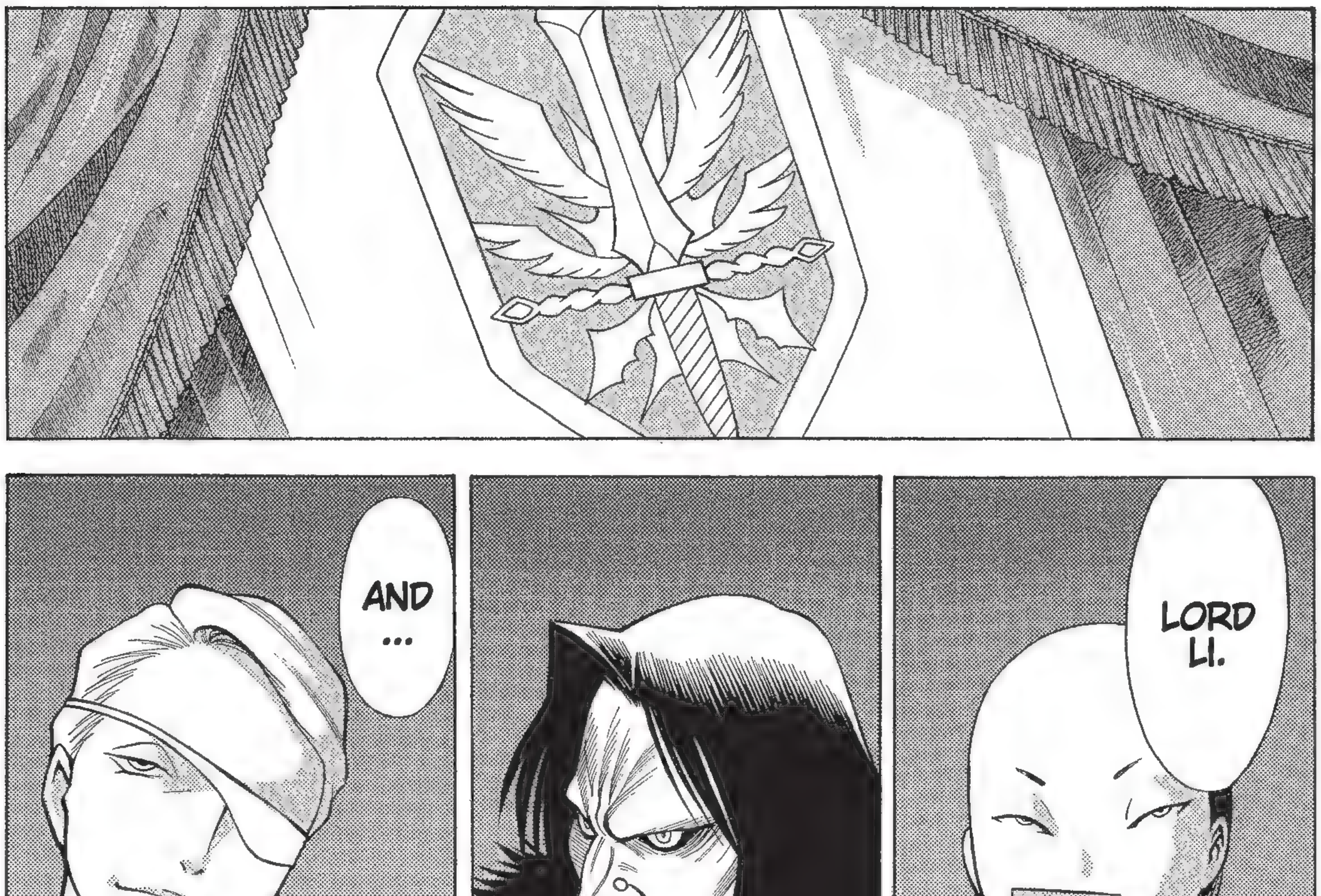
AND HOW...

DO I STOP HER...?!

DRIP

DRIP

Chapter 21: The Kings of Darkness


AND ...
MY DEAR LORD ROZEN-MANN.
LORD IVANOVIC.
LORD LI.

I AM GLAD YOU HAVE COME.

WELCOME TO MY NEW HOME.

DESPITE THE TIME THAT HAS PASSED SINCE OUR LAST MEETING, YOUR FACE BETRAYS NOT THE SLIGHTEST DECLINE.

GLANCE

YOUR MAJESTY IS IN GOOD SPIRITS.

WE HAD ANTICIPATED AN INVITATION TO YOUR MAJESTY'S DEBUT. HOWEVER...

I APOLOGIZE FOR OUR *SUDDEN* VISIT.

OUR PATIENCE GREW THIN, AND SO, WE HAVE TAKEN IT UPON OURSELVES TO COME TO *YOU.*

AFTER ALL...

IT'S JUST BEEN ONE TROUBLE AFTER ANOTHER.

I'M SURE YOU UNDER-STAND, DO YOU NOT, LORD ROZEN-MANN?

I'VE HAD A SIMPLY *HORRIBLE* TIME SINCE MY ARRIVAL.

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD *APOLOGIZE* FOR THAT.

PERHAPS OUR LITTLE PRANK TO GET YOUR MAJESTY'S ATTENTION WENT A BIT TOO FAR.

DO FORGIVE LAST WEEK'S... *INCIDENT.*

HA HA HA! I SEE THERE'S NO HIDING IT FROM YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.

WE ARE YOUR MAJESTY'S GUARD-IANS.

SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO ESTABLISH A NEW CAPITAL, YOU SHOULD CONSULT WITH US FIRST.

PRANK, INDEED.

PERHAPS YOU MEANT "PUNISH-MENT"?

IT MATTERS NOT.

IRRRR

WE ARE ALL OF THE SAME BLOOD, BUT *I* AM THE RULER.

ANY UNMERITED INTERFER-ENCE WILL NOT AVAIL YOU.

I NEED *YOUR* PERMISSION BEFORE I BUILD A CASTLE?

YOU WOULD DO WELL TO *REMEMBER* THAT!!

YOU SIT ON THAT THRONE ONLY AS LONG AS WE THREE *ALLOW* YOU TO DO SO!

PRE-SUMP-TUOUS GIRL!

B2 2T

YOU DO NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO CALL YOURSELF THE *RULER* OF ALL *VAMPIRES!!*

YOU MAY BE A DIRECT DESCENDENT OF THE ROYAL LINEAGE, BUT YOUR DYNASTY HAS FALLEN *FAR* FROM ITS FORMER GLORY!

LORD IVA-NOVIC.

YOUR WORD-GAMES *DISGUST* ME!

IT IS YOU WHO HAS FALLEN...

IT IS TRUE THAT YOU HAVE WATCHED OVER ME...

AND *BOUND* ME, AND *OBSTRUCTED* ME...

NEVERTHELESS, THE PALACE IS *HERE*. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

LET ME POSE A QUESTION TO YOU.

WHAT IS NECESSARY FOR ME TO BUILD THE TEPES ROYAL PALACE HERE, AND TO RESIDE WITHIN IT?

AND I AM HERE, NOW.

!

THAT IN AND OF ITSELF IS *PROOF* THAT I AM THE QUEEN OF VAMPIRES!

AND *NONE* SHALL COMMAND ME!!

HA HA HA.

SHE'S GOT YOU THERE, IVANOVIC.

SUCH ARROGANCE... YOU'RE THE VERY *IMAGE* OF YOUR MOTHER.

I'LL TAKE THAT AS A COMPLIMENT.

TO THINK YOU WERE THAT INNOCENT LITTLE GIRL, TREMBLING BEHIND THE CURTAIN...

YOUR MOTHER WOULD BE PROUD.

.....

MINA-HIME, YOU'VE BECOME AN *EXCELLENT* RULER.

I SEE. SO WE'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT IT.

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF ONE RECOGNIZED AS THE HEAD OF THE ROYAL VAMPIRIC FAMILY?

SO THEN, I ASK YOU, YOUR MAJESTY...

AND TO PROMOTE THE GLORY OF VAMPIRIC SOCIETY.

TO UPHOLD OUR ANCIENT TRADITIONS, TO SELECT AMBASSADORS, TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE HUMAN WORLD...

.....

BUT WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

THOSE ARE DUTIES REGARDING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT.

TO AVOID THE END OF THE TRUE BLOOD...

THERE MUST BE A CHILD BORN OF A UNION OF NOBLE LINEAGE.

I SEE YOU UNDER-STAND QUITE WELL.

WE ARE YOUR POTENTIAL MATES BY FATE.

THE BLOOD *MUST* BE PASSED ON.

IF WE SHOULD FALL, *ALL* OF VAMPIRIC SOCIETY FALLS WITH US.

ARE BUT THE FOUR OF US IN THIS ROOM.

THE TRUE VAMPIRES, THE ONES WHO POSSESS THE ANCIENT BLOOD...

IS *YOU*, MINA-HIME.

AND THE ONLY ONE AMONG US CAPABLE OF BEARING CHILDREN...

NATURALLY, NONE OF US WISHES TO *FORCE* YOU.

BUT YOU CANNOT DENY THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CLAN.

YOU WILL BEAR A CHILD BY ONE OF US THREE HERE.

IT IS YOUR **DUTY**, AND YOUR DESTINY.

IF SOME TECHNIQUE CAN BE FOUND TO ALLOW THIS BODY OF MINE TO MATURE INTO A WOMAN, I'D HAPPILY BE THE BRIDE OF ANY ONE OF YOU THREE.

.....

I AM AWARE OF THAT FACT.

HOW-EVER ...

OUR OLD GAMES ARE BECOMING TIRESOME AND TEDIOUS.

CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE COME HERE TO WASTE OUR TIME AWAY WITH THESE GAMES.

UNFORTU-NATELY, THAT IS NOT YET POSSIBLE.

A BET?

THUS THE THREE OF US HAVE DECIDED TO MAKE A LITTLE BET.

YOU SEEM TO BE *EXCESSIVELY FOND* OF THIS DOG.

AKIRA!

!

WHAT WAS ITS NAME ...?

I HAVE HEARD YOUR MAJESTY KEEPS SOME SORT OF *DOG* IN HER PRESENCE.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH AKIRA ?!

AH THMP

WHIMP

TOK TOK TOK

SWISH

DUCK

WHISH

SHAAA

WHAT IS SHE USING TO MAKE THIS KIND OF MARK?

NOT GOOD!

WHOOSH

I CAN'T SEE HER WEAPON...

THMP

SHAAA

SHHH

SHHH

SHHH

!

TWITCH

ESHHH

SWISH

FWSHH

SNATCH

SHAAAA

THUD

SHOOH

SHARHH

WHA--
?!

SNIF

GLARE

WHSH

WHUMP

TOK

TOK

TOK

AH!

GRICK

FWISH

CRACK

GOD DAMN IT...

KRIK

TTTP

THUD

WHMP

WHAT THE HELL...

ARE YOU?!

SWOOSH

WHUMP

SWISH

TMP

WHERE...

WHERE DID HE...?!

WOOSH

AH

CRUNCH!!!

OH, GREAT. THREE OF THEM NOW...

UPON ARRIVING HERE, EACH OF US SENT OUT AN ASSASSIN.

THE DEADLIEST AMONG THE DEADLY.

THEY NEVER MISS THEIR TARGET.

WHUMP

TODAY, THEIR MARK IS...

YOUR PRECIOUS LITTLE *DOG.*

FROM DUSK TILL DAWN.

FWOOOOO

ONE OF THEM WILL LAY YOUR WOLF PUP LOW BY DAYBREAK...

AND THEIR MASTER...

SHALL BECOME YOUR *HUSBAND.*

!

THUD

THUD

THUD

NOW...

LET THE HUNT BEGIN.

AKIRA
!!

……
!!

FROM DUSK TILL DAWN...

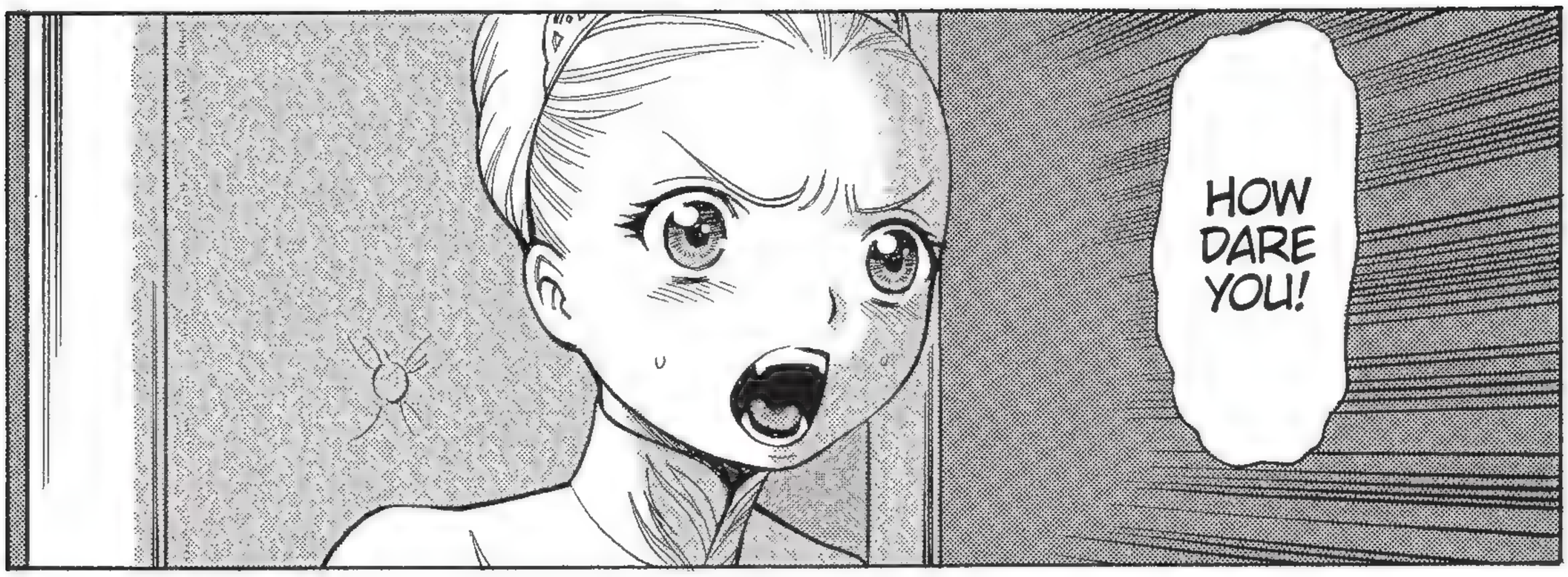
THEIR PREY IS...

KABU-RAGI AKIRA.

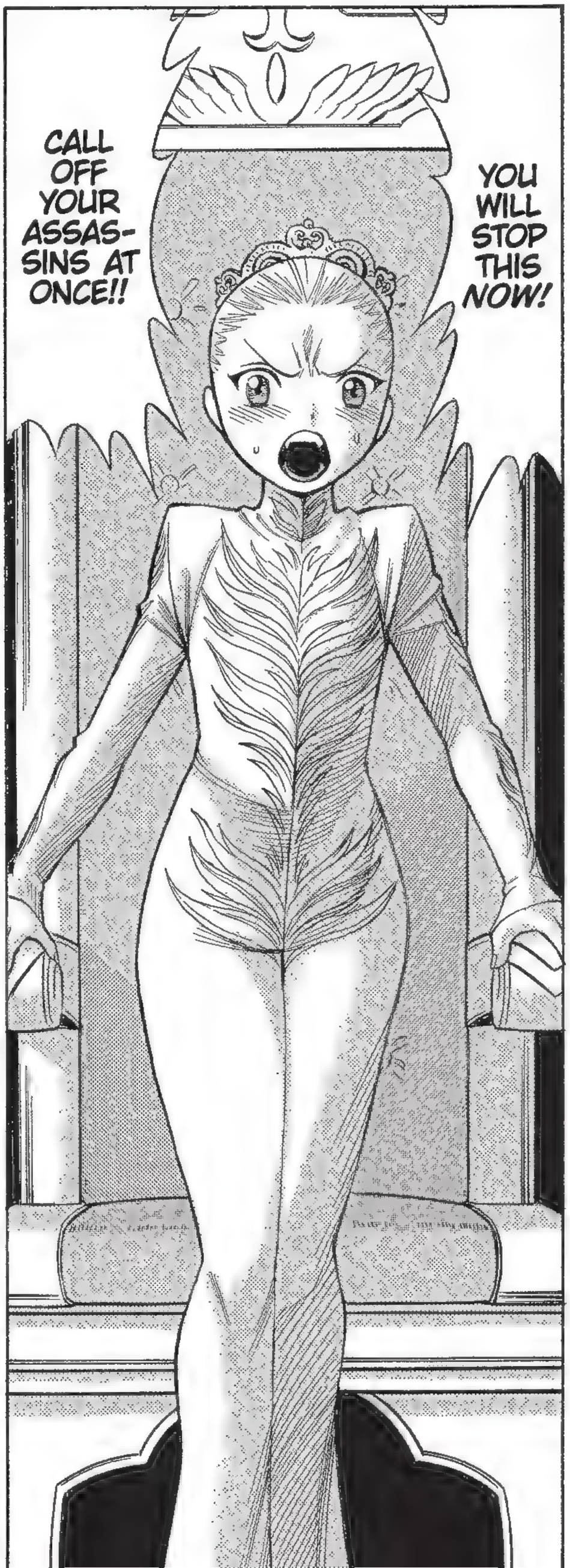
Chapter 22: Target, Kaburagi Akira

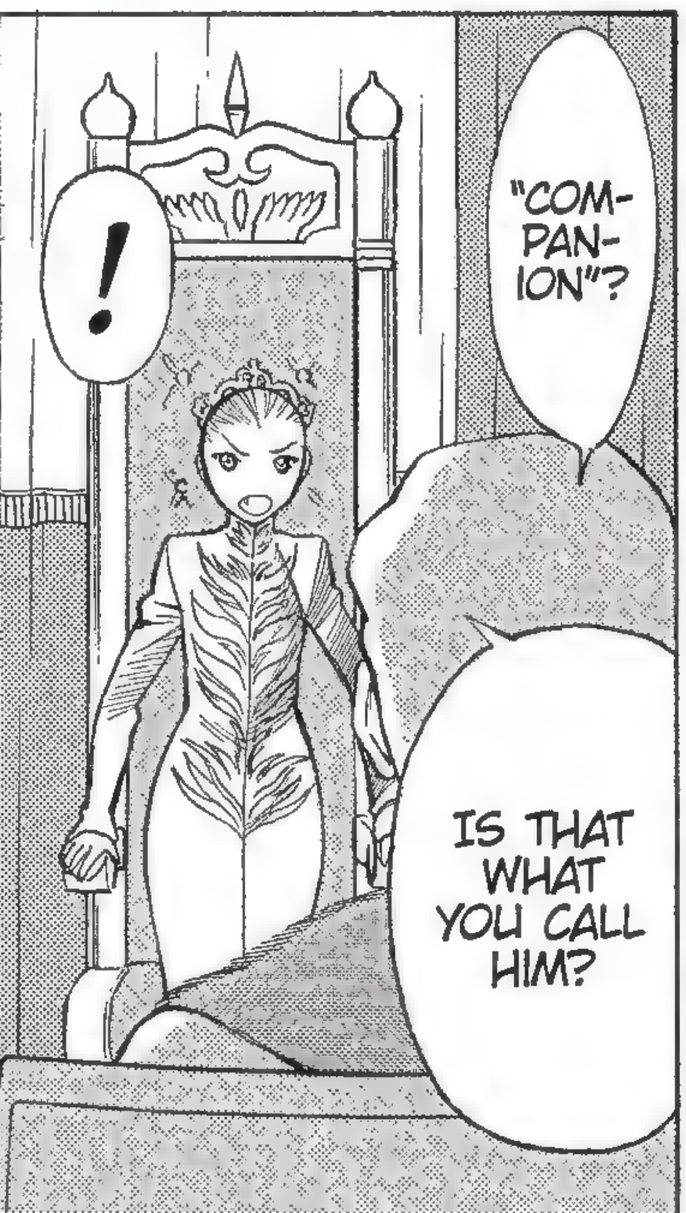
HE WHO KILLS THE DOG...

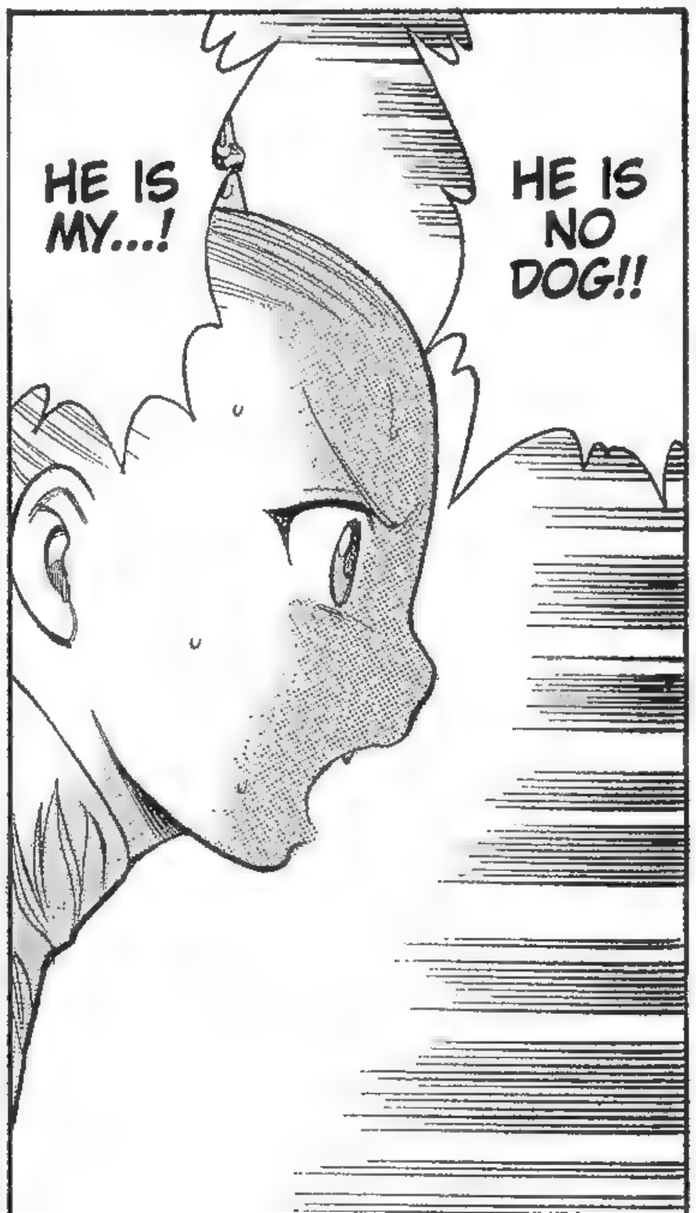
SHALL BECOME MINA-HIME'S BETROTHED !!


HOW DARE YOU!


WHY ARE YOU SO TROUBLED OVER A DOG?


CALL OFF YOUR ASSAS-SINS AT ONCE!!
YOU WILL STOP THIS NOW!


!
"COM-PAN-ION"?
IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL HIM?


HE IS MY...!
HE IS NO DOG!!

HA HA HA!

HEH.

MUBWA

HA

HA

HA

HA

HA

HA

HA

HO

HO

HO

WE ARE YOUR **ONLY** TRUE COMPANIONS IN ETERNITY.

SURELY YOU REALIZE ...

YOUR POSITION, YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES, YOUR LIFESPAN, EVEN YOUR SPECIES ARE FAR REMOVED FROM HIS.

THAT BEAST IS A MERE *WERE-WOLF.*

HE AND ALL THE OTHERS ARE FUNDAMEN-TALLY DIFFERENT FROM *US.*

THERE IS NO ONE ELSE FOR YOU!!

AKIRA...

SHIT... I SHOULD'VE PUT MY CELL PHONE IN MY BAG...

AND WITH ALL THREE OF THEM AFTER ME, THIS IS GOING TO BE ROUGH...

THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING'S STILL TOO MANY BLOCKS AWAY...

HUFF

HUFF

TMP

THERE SHOULD BE A BEOWULF STATION NEAR HERE.

HMM. THIS IS THE SOUTH END OF THE SHOPPING AREA...

TOK

CURRENTLY, THE BEOWULF UNIT IS FOCUSING ALL ITS RESOURCES ON LOCATING AKIRA.

AS SOON AS AKIRA'S SAFE, WE'LL BEGIN REMOVING ENEMY UNITS.

DEPLOY PERSONNEL ACCORDING TO EMERGENCY PROTOCOL D-4.

BUT, SIR--!

WITH-DRAW ALL BEOWULF FORCES IMMEDI-ATELY.

I DON'T RECALL ISSUING SUCH AN ORDER.

WITH ALL DUE RES-PECT, SIR!

HE CAN HANDLE THIS AMOUNT OF DANGER.

HE HAS HAD SELF-DEFENSE TECHNIQUES POUNDED INTO HIM.

SIR, AREN'T WE GOING TO HELP AKIRA?!

AKIRA HAS HAD EXTENSIVE TRAINING, BUT FOR HIM TO SURVIVE THIS...

IT WILL BE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE!

THERE IS NO NEED.

HE HAS AN UNCONSCIOUS TENDENCY TO HOLD BACK AGAINST HIS OPPONENTS...

NOWHERE WAS THAT MORE *CLEARLY* SEEN THAN THE RECENT SUBWAY INCIDENT!

I'VE READ HIS FILE, SIR...

AKIRA IS **INCAPABLE** OF HARMING ANOTHER PERSON...

BE IT HUMAN OR VAMPIRE!

HE'S UNABLE TO BE RUTHLESS AT THE CRITICAL *MOMENT!*

AND WITHOUT THAT ABILITY, SIR, HE *WILL* DIE IN BATTLE!!

YUKI ...

OFTEN PUTTING HIMSELF IN DANGER OR LETTING ENEMIES ESCAPE!

HE MUST OVERCOME THIS TRIAL.

TODAY.

THIS IS A MAJOR PROBLEM, SIR...

AND AKIRA CANNOT SUR-VIVE THIS ON HIS OWN!

BUT IT CANNOT BE SOLVED IN A DAY!

TO BE FRANK, SIR, I BELIEVE AKIRA'S PAST IS THE CAUSE.

THAT HORRIFIC INCIDENT...

THEN THAT WILL BE THE END.

DEATH WILL MERELY COME FOR HIM SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.

BUT WHAT IF HE DOESN'T?! WE'LL LOSE *EVERY-THING* TO THEM!

HE MUST *PUSH* BEYOND HIS LIMITS.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S SAKE... AND HIS OWN.

SOME FATHER HE IS...

.....

CARRY OUT YOUR DUTIES AS COM-MANDED.

PREPARE ALL THE FORCES. NO UNNEC-ESSARY ALLOW-ANCES.

WHY AM I NOT SURPRISED?

SHIT ...

IT'S LOCKED ...

HEY!

IS ANY-ONE IN THERE ?!

!

EEEK!

SHE'S BACK ...

AAAH!

FWSH!

!

AAAH!

NO ...!

TWITCH!!!

THUNK

WHISH!!

SNAP

WHA--

WHAT THE HELL ?!

SNAP

SHRAKK

UHN..

GAH..

DODGE

SHAAA

SQUIRM

JERK

SHRRK

SPLAAK

SPLAAK

SPLAA

TP
TP
TP
HUH?
STOMP
RAAAAH!
SPLASH
SPLOSH
SPLISH
GRAAK!!
OR MAYBE I CAN?!
OH, FOR GOD'S SAKE...
I JUST CAN'T CATCH A BREAK...


YAMMER
YAMMER
YAMMER
MUFF
MUFF
DOGMA
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
COULD I USE YOUR PHONE?
EX-CUSE ME...
YAMMER
MUTTER
MUTTER
YAMMER

SHIIIK

SHIIIK

YAMMER

CAN... CAN YOU EVEN HEAR ME?! I NEED TO USE THE PHONE!!

THE PHONE! CAN I USE IT?!

.....

YAMMER

YAMMER

IT'S AN EMERGENCY! I REALLY *NEED* TO USE IT!!

HEY!!

THAT BRAT, *HM.*

WHAT?

IN MY TERRI-TORY...?

I'LL TAKE IT IN THE OTHER ROOM.

A TELE-PHONE CALL...?

VERY WELL! MAKE THE ARRANGE-MENTS.

NO. IT'S RATHER CONVE-NIENT.

AFTER ALL, IF HE IS TO BE MADE INTO A BARGAINING TOOL...

CHILDREN ARE JUST SO *TROUBLE-SOME.*

I SEE... DERMAILLE, EH?

ARE YOU DONE?! THEN LET ME--

CLICK

I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.

OR MORE CORRECTLY, OF YOUR *LOVER.*

HN.

YOU, THERE.

MURMER

MURMUR

NOD

MUTTER

MUTTER

MUTTER

MUTTER

ERR ...

HAVING A NICE NIGHT?!

HELLO.

GET OUTTA MY WAY !!

WHAT THE HELL IS WITH PEOPLE TODAY ?!!

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

LORD DERMAILLE'S ORDERS!

IGNORE THE OUTSIDERS AND TAKE HIM DOWN!!

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!

THIS IS CRAZY!!

AND NOW A BAR FULL OF VAMPIRES?!

FIRST THOSE THREE WEIRDOS COME AFTER ME...

OVER HERE!!

AKIRA-SAN!

I GOT A CALL FROM ONEECHAN.

SHE SAID YOU WERE IN DANGER, AND TOLD ME TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.

YUZURU! HOW'D YOU...?

TMP

TMP

IT'S OKAY! ONEECHAN SHOWED ME A SAFE ROUTE OUT.

I APPRECIATE THE HELP, BUT ONE WRONG MOVE AND YOU'LL BE IN DANGER TOO! I CAN'T ASK THAT OF YOU!

BUT... ONEECHAN'S REQUEST ISN'T THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE. I CAME BECAUSE I OWE YOU.

YOU OWE ME...?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU'D NEVER GET OUT ALONE.

I KNOW THIS IS DANGEROUS. THIS AREA IS CONTROLLED BY LORD DERMAILLE.

YOU DON'T REGRET IT AT ALL, DO YOU?

YUZURU ...

SO I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING IN RETURN.

THANKS TO YOU AND HIME-SAMA, ONEECHAN AND I ARE, WELL, YOU KNOW...

I SEE...

YOU'RE WAY STRONGER THAN ME, KIDDO!

HUG

NOT AT ALL!

NO. I DON'T.

BE ON YOUR GUARD!

I'LL... I'LL JUST TAKE A LOOK AROUND.

WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF HERE SOON.

UM...

UH...

HIME-SAN... JUST WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

.....

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT... BEING ALL BY YOURSELF...?


OH, IT'S JUST YUZURU ...


!
TOK


IF WE ARE, LET'S GET THE HELL OUTTA...
WE CLEAR ?


SQUELSH

Y-
YOU'RE
...

NOT
YUZU--

WHSH
/-/

SMACK!

GRAAH

I...

I GOT SUCKED INTO SOME KIND OF WEIRD SHADOW!

YUZURU!

WHUMP

I DON'T KNOW!

CREAK

GROAN

SHUFFLE

WHAT *WAS* THAT THING?! IT LOOKED JUST LIKE ME!!

OH MY GOD!

A SHAPE-SHIFTER ...?

WAIT, I'VE READ ABOUT THESE !!

KYAAA!

SHAAA

AHH...

KRIK

KRAK

AGHHH!

POP

WAIT A SEC, THERE ARE VAMPIRES LIKE THAT?!

FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN ONE.

!

IT CAN CHANGE ITS OWN FORM AT WILL!!

THAT'S HOW IT MAKES THAT CREEPY *ARM WEAPON...*

!

YUZURU ...

ON MY SIGNAL, YOU RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN!

THAT'S **WHY** YOU NEED TO RUN!!

I KNOW ...

YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR THAT THING IN YOUR CONDI-TION!

NO! I WON'T LEAVE YOU HERE!

殺ッ

DIIIEEEEEEEE!!

TMP

TMP

TMP

AAA

AAA

SHHH

AAA

RUN!

TOK

YAAAA!

HANG IN THERE, AKIRA-SAN!

HUFF

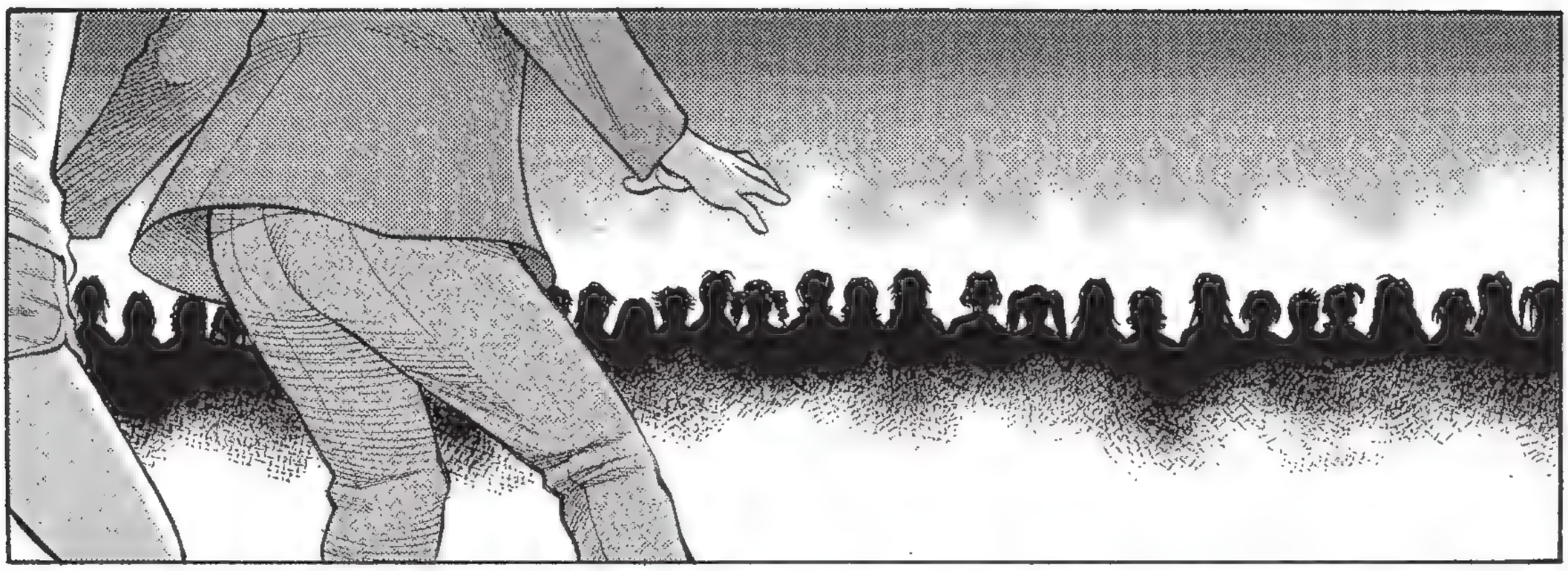
HUFF

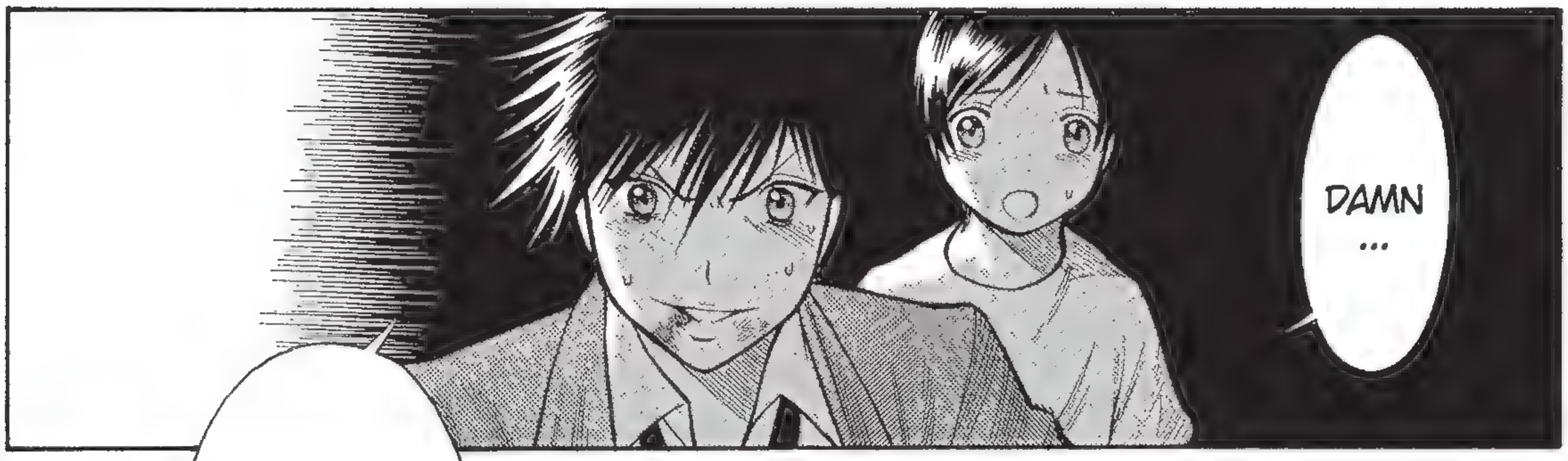
WE'LL BE OUT OF HERE SOON!

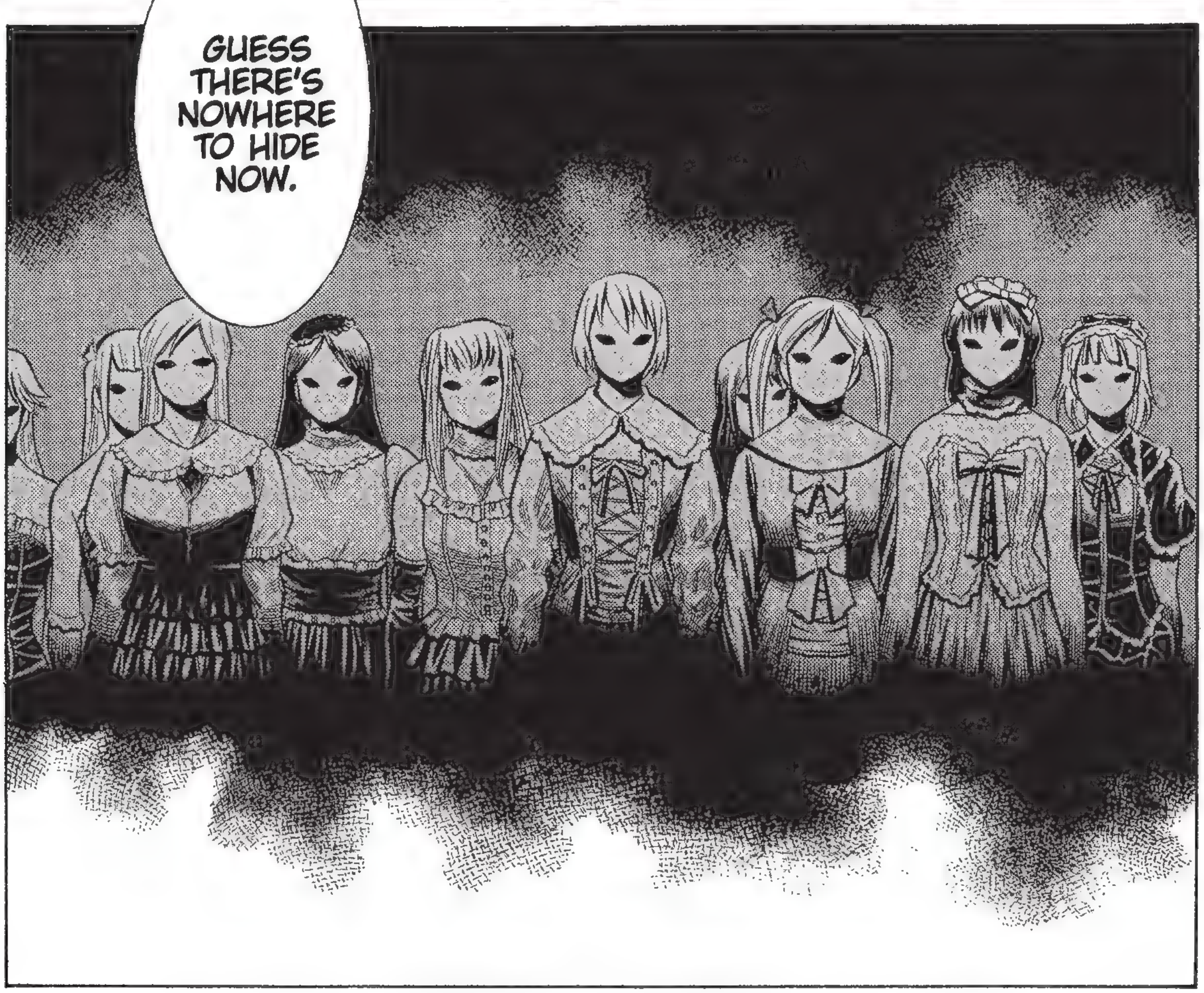
IT'S JUST THROUGH THIS ALLEY...

GLANCE

UH... AKIRA-SAN...




DAMN
...

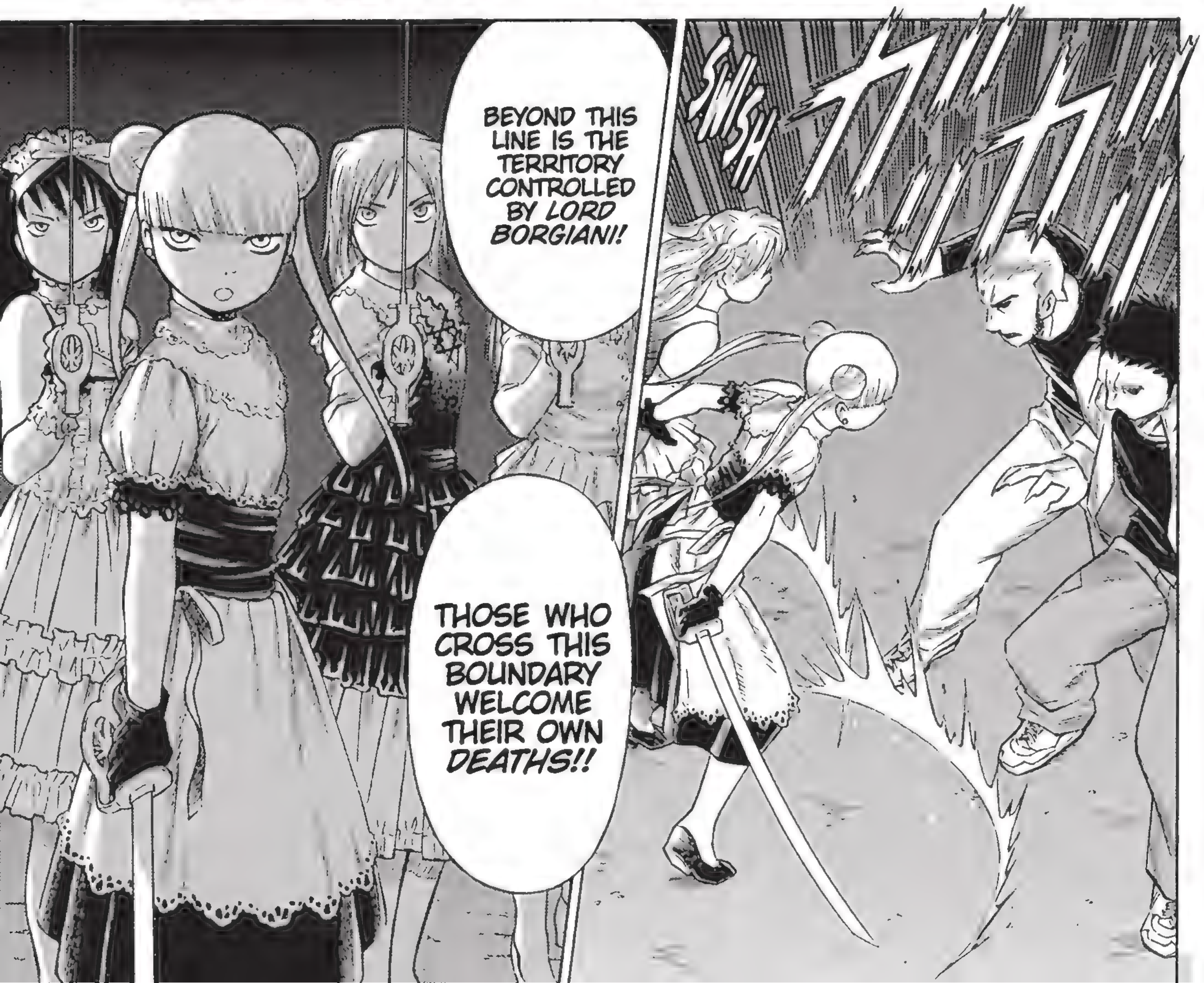

GUESS THERE'S NOWHERE TO HIDE NOW.


SWISH
SHOOSH

Chapter 23: The Fresh-Blooded Maiden




!
FWSH


BEYOND THIS LINE IS THE TERRITORY CONTROLLED BY LORD BORGIANI!
THOSE WHO CROSS THIS BOUNDARY WELCOME THEIR OWN DEATHS!!
SWSH
SWSH

WHISTLE

HEY! YOU'RE ...!

KABURAGI AKIRA-SAMA.

I DON'T KNOW.

WH... WHAT JUST HAPPENED ?

MY MASTER AWAITS.

SHALL WE GO FOR A RIDE?

HELLO, BOY!

WHY CAN'T *ANY-ONE* SEEM TO FIND HIM?!!

WHERE IS AKIRA?!

CALM YOURSELF, YUKI.

WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?

AKIRA-KUN, HE'S...

YUKI!

HIME-SAMA!

I SUPPOSE I NEEDN'T ASK...

DAMN THAT MAN!!

YUZURU *SHOULD* BE LEADING AKIRA-KUN TO A SAFE ZONE...

BUT I HAVEN'T HAD AN UPDATE IN THE LAST THIRTY MINUTES.

YUZURU ?!

WHAT ABOUT ***BEOWULF*** ?!

WOLFGANG-SAMA DID SEND A MESSAGE.

"I ASK THAT HER MAJESTY HOLD HER TEMPER AND HAVE PATIENCE AS WE DEAL WITH THE REAR GUARD."

"TODAY IS A GREAT DAY FOR THE ROYAL HOUSE."

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT ?!

STOP!!

HAVE *PATIENCE*, HE SAYS...

SQUEEZE

DUKE ROZENMANN'S ORDERS, QUEEN MINA.

I AM TO TEST YOUR **CHASTITY.**

IT'S ALL RIGHT, VERA. I KNEW THEY WERE GOING TO DO THIS.

I WILL GO.

HER NEXT EXAMINATION ISN'T DUE FOR ANOTHER *THREE YEARS!*

WHAT IS THIS ?!

SHAA

HIME-SAMA ...

WHATEVER YOU SEE, PLEASE DON'T HATE ME.

YUKI...

HIME-SAMA... UM, A CHASTITY TEST, THAT'S...

IT'LL BE OVER SOON. JUST WAIT HERE.

WHY?! FIGHTING FOR MY LIFE ISN'T A *GAME*!!

A BET?! ON MY *LIFE*?!!

YEAH, THAT SHAPESHIFTER CHICK, THE KABUKI-FACED NINJA, AND THE EVIL *POWER RANGER* KNOCK-OFF!!

I'M SURE YOU MET THEM ALREADY, THE THREE ASSASSINS THEY SENT.

AND THAT *PRIZE* IS...

THE RIGHT TO TAKE HER MAJESTY AS A *BRIDE*.

THE MASTER OF WHICHEVER ONE KILLS YOU SHALL TAKE THE POT.

BE...

BE-TROTHED ...

WHAT ...

NO... THAT'S ...

BUT FOR NOW, THEY'D BE HER BETROTHED.

THE WINNER *WILL* MARRY HER MAJESTY ONE DAY.

TO AVOID THE BLOODLINE DISAPPEARING ALTOGETHER, SHE **MUST** HAVE A CHILD BY ONE OF THEM.

IT'S HARDLY SURPRISING. HER MAJESTY IS NOW THE ONLY FULL-BLOODED FEMALE VAMPIRE IN THE WORLD.

YOU DIDN'T ACTUALLY THINK *YOU* WOULD BE ABLE TO BE WITH HER SOMEDAY, DID YOU?

OH, COME NOW...

IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN A BOY'S WISHFUL THINKING.

IN-DEED.

"THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE."

THAT'S ...

EACH OF YOU HAS A DIFFERENT DESTINY.

NO MATTER HOW CLOSE YOU ARE...

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU SEEK OUT EACH OTHER...

AND THAT DESTINY WILL **NEVER** CHANGE.

OH, HER MAJESTY IS FIGHTING AS WELL...

IT SHOULD BE STARTING, RIGHT ABOUT *NOW*...

.....

HIME-SAN...

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?

I WILL DO IT MYSELF.

PFFF

VERA-SAN, WHAT ARE THEY...?

.....

RIP

TO PROVE THAT SHE IS WORTHY ...

AS A QUEEN AND BRIDE, ONCE EVERY TEN YEARS...

THE CHASTITY TEST.

WAIT...

HER WORTH ...?

.....

SHE PROVES IT *HOW...?!*

SHF
SHF
SHF
SHF
CREEAK
ゴウーン
CREEAK
ゴウーン
SHF
SHF
SHF
SHF
SHF
SHF
CLICK



A VIRGINITY TEST?!

YES.

A TRUE-BLOODED VAMPIRE CAN ONLY BEAR *ONE* CHILD DURING HER ENTIRE LIFE.

THEREFORE, A WOMAN OF THE ROYAL FAMILY *MUST* PRESERVE HER VIRTUE.

WAIT A SECOND!

THEY'RE GOING TO CHECK TO SEE IF HIME-SAN'S BEEN WITH A MAN?!

SHE *COULDN'T* HAVE! THERE'S NO WAY!!

OF COURSE NOT!

EVEN IF SHE HAD, HER PHYSICAL AGE WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO **BECOME** PREGNANT.

THIS IS A FARCE.

AND *NO ONE* IS LAUGHING.

THEIR GOAL IS NOTHING MORE THAN TO SHOW HER THAT...

THEY ARE USING THE PRETENSE OF AN EXAMINATION TO *SHAME* HER.

YAWN ...

SHE IS *THEIR* PROPERTY.

PERHAPS YOU'VE HEARD THE STORY. LONG AGO, VAMPIRIC SOCIETY WAS TORN APART BY WAR.

THEN THREE GREAT CLANS AROSE IN REVOLT: ROZENMANN, LI, AND IVANOVIC.

THEIR NUMBERS WERE LESSENED, BUT MANY OF THE FAMILIES REMAINED.

WHILE THEY SQUABBLED AMONGST THEMSELVES, THEIR ONE COMMON GOAL WAS THE **PRESERVATION** OF THE TRUE BLOOD, SO THEY ALL PROTECTED THE ROYAL FAMILY.

THEN THEY TURNED THEIR ATTENTION TO THE TEPES.

IN A FLASH, THEY OBLITERATED AND ABSORBED THE OTHER CLANS.

BUT YES, IT IS HER MAJESTY'S **FATE** TO MARRY ONE OF THE MEN WHO KILLED HER OWN MOTHER.

WHEN THEY FINALLY GOT TO THE QUEEN, THEY... I'D RATHER NOT SPEAK OF IT.

THEY BURNED THE PALACE AND PURSUED THE FAMILY.

!

IRONICALLY, SHE BECAME THE SHIELD THAT PROTECTED HER OWN LIFE.

TO LAY A HAND ON HER MAJESTY WOULD MEAN DESTROYING THE VERY SOURCE OF LIFE FOR *ALL* VAMPIRES.

OF COURSE, THEY DIDN'T LAY A HAND ON HER THEN.

HOW COULD THEY?

AND THEY KNOW IT.

SHE ISN'T A TIMID CHILD ANYMORE.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THEN.

AND WITH THE POWER OF PEOPLE LIKE VERA AND YOUR FATHER, THE ROYAL FAMILY HAS RISEN TO THE POINT OF RESTORING THE ENTIRE NATION.

IN ORDER TO CLAIM A COMPLETE VICTORY OVER THE TEPES...

TO REMIND HER OF HER *DELICATE* POSITION.

THAT IS WHY THOSE THREE HAVE COME HERE AND DEMANDED THIS CHASTITY TEST.

THEY MUST CONTROL HER MAJESTY'S VERY SOUL.

HIME-SAN...

HIME-SAMA!!

HIME-SAMA!

HIME-SAMA...

IS YUKI HERE?

YUKI...

YUKI, COME HERE PLEASE.

I'M SORRY, BUT COULD YOU LEAVE US ALONE ...?

I'M SORRY... JUST LET ME STAY LIKE THIS AWHILE.

.....

HIME-SAMA...

I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO SEE THAT... FORGIVE ME...

DOES AKIRA-KUN...

DOES HE KNOW?

NO!!

IT'S CRUEL...

IT'S TOO CRUEL!

THIS IS THE *TRUE* FORM OF THE QUEEN OF THE VAMPIRES.

RIDICU-LOUS, ISN'T IT?

DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS...

AKIRA WOULD DO SOME-THING!

WHAT COULD HE DO, ALL BY HIMSELF?

I... I WON'T LET HIM KNOW!

HE'D DO *SOME-THING!*

AFTER ALL...

TO SEE ME LIKE THIS...

HE CARES ABOUT YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE...

HEH...

IT WAS RIGHT AFTER THE TEST THAT DAY. I WAS ALL ALONE...

AND HE SAVED ME.

THE TIME THAT I FIRST MET AKIRA...

I... I JUST REMEMBERED ...

HURRY... PLEASE...

OH, AKIRA ...

AKIRA ...

COME AND SAVE ME...

WHERE ARE YOU?

STOP HERE!

RIGHT?

THE BET WAS THAT WHOEVER KILLS ME WILL WIN HIME-SAN...

SO WHY DID YOU COME?

YEAH, I FIGURED.

TMP

JUST SO YOU KNOW, NO ONE WILL COME TO SAVE YOU.

YOUR FATHER LEFT ORDERS FOR YOU TO BE LEFT ON YOUR OWN.

I CAN NEVER RESIST *STIRRING* THE POT.

DON'T YOU KNOW?

"I AM NOT DEAD, AND I WILL COME BACK TO YOU!"

I WANT YOU TO DELIVER THIS MESSAGE TO HIME-SAN.

GIVE ME THE PACKAGE.

I'LL PASS THAT ALONG.

SO...

THIS IS A CELLULAR REGEN-ERATION SERUM.

IT DRAMATICALLY ACCELERATES YOUR LYCANTHROPIC HEALING ABILITY. THAT GUT WOUND OF YOURS WILL BE COMPLETELY HEALED IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.

DON'T GIVE UP!

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TRANS-FORM INTO YOUR WOLF FORM.

IF YOU USE IT, ALL YOUR METABOLIC ENERGY WILL BE FOCUSED ON HEALING.

I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GONNA HELP ME?

THIS ISN'T HELP. IT'S AN *OPPORTU-NITY.*

CHOOSE WISELY.

IT'S UP TO YOU TO MAKE THAT DECISION.

SORRY, YUZURU.

THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU GO.

AKIRA-SAN!

I WON'T THANK YOU.

SHIKK

I NOW KNOW THAT I'VE GOT TO DO THIS ON MY OWN!!

PLEASE WAIT FOR ME, HIME-SAN.

Chapter 24: Cross Now The River of Rage

ONE!
TWO!
READY!
FOUR!
THREE!
FIVE!
SHH.
SIX!
SHH.

COME AND GET ME!

READY OR NOT, HERE I COME!

ENOUGH, ALPHONSE.

I'M IN NO MOOD FOR YOUR TONGUE.

YOU LOOK JUST THE SAME...

AFTER ALL THIS TIME, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.

SHOULD I BE HAPPY? OR SHALL I BE SAD?

HUH ?

!

YOU SAW AKIRA ?!

YOU MAY FIND WEEPING AND PITYING YOURSELF TO BE AMUSING...

BUT NEVER FORGET, YOUR MAJESTY, THAT THERE IS ONE WHO SPILLS HIS BLOOD FOR YOU.

HE DID HIS BEST, THAT BOY.

SO YOU SHOULDN'T GIVE UP...

HE GAVE ME A MESSAGE FOR YOU.

HE SAID HE WOULD RETURN TO YOU, ALIVE.

HE PLANS TO DEFEAT THE ASSASSINS SENT AFTER HIM.

AKIRA-KUN SAID THAT ?!

HE'LL COME BACK ALIVE ...

THERE ARE THREE OF THEM, ALL KILLERS OF TERRIFYING SKILL.

AT THE SAME TIME, HE IS ALREADY WOUNDED.

ALSO, HE HAS TAKEN A DRUG WHICH PREVENTS HIM FROM CHANGING INTO HIS WOLF FORM.

STILL... HE FIGHTS ON.

ALL FOR *YOU*, YOUR MAJESTY.

AKIRA SAID...

DON'T GIVE UP...

HE SAID HE'D FIGHT FOR ME...

HE SAID THAT!!

RIGHT AWAY!

YUKI! HAVE VERA COME IN HERE!

I'M GOING TO **MEET** THOSE BASTARDS!!

I WON'T BOTHER THANKING YOU.

IT WAS CLEAR THAT HER MAJESTY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AVOID MARRYING ONE OF THOSE THREE EVENTUALLY.

THUS, WE MUST FIND A MORE SUITABLE MATCH FOR A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL HOUSE.

AND IF THEY WERE TO MEET WITH SOME SORT OF UNFORTU-NATE ACCIDENT...

THE BET WOULD BE OFF TOO, *HM?*

AFTER CAPTURING THEM, IT WAS MY INTENTION TO PRESENT HER MAJESTY WITH AN APPROPRIATE SUITOR...

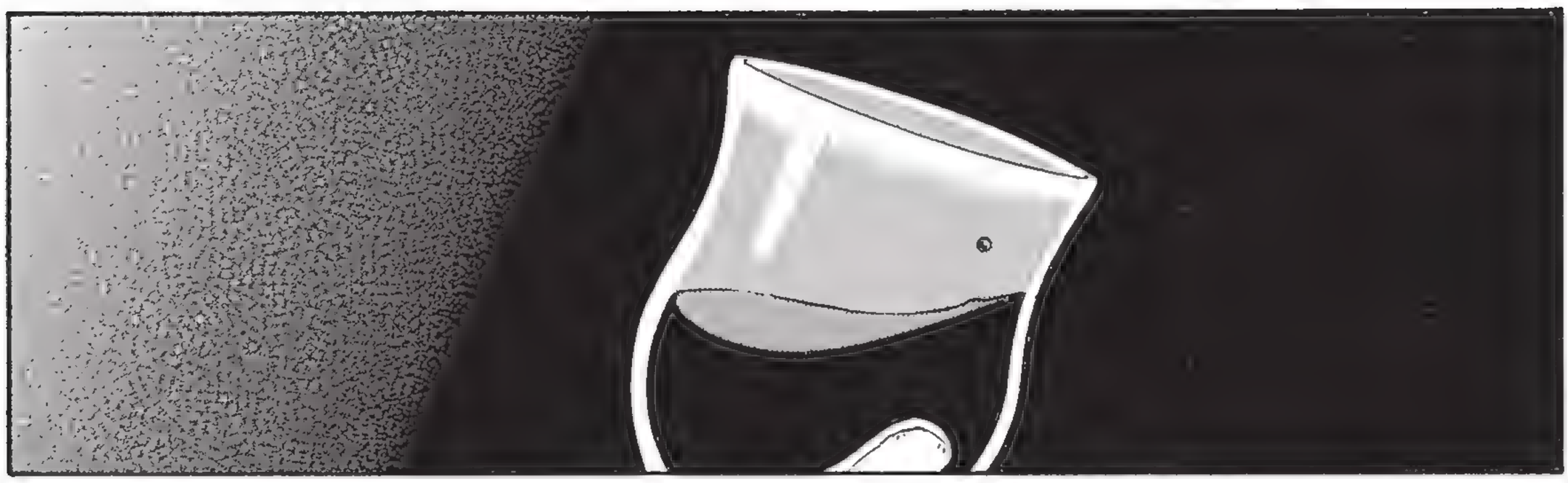
YOU'RE LOOKING AT ME STRANGELY.

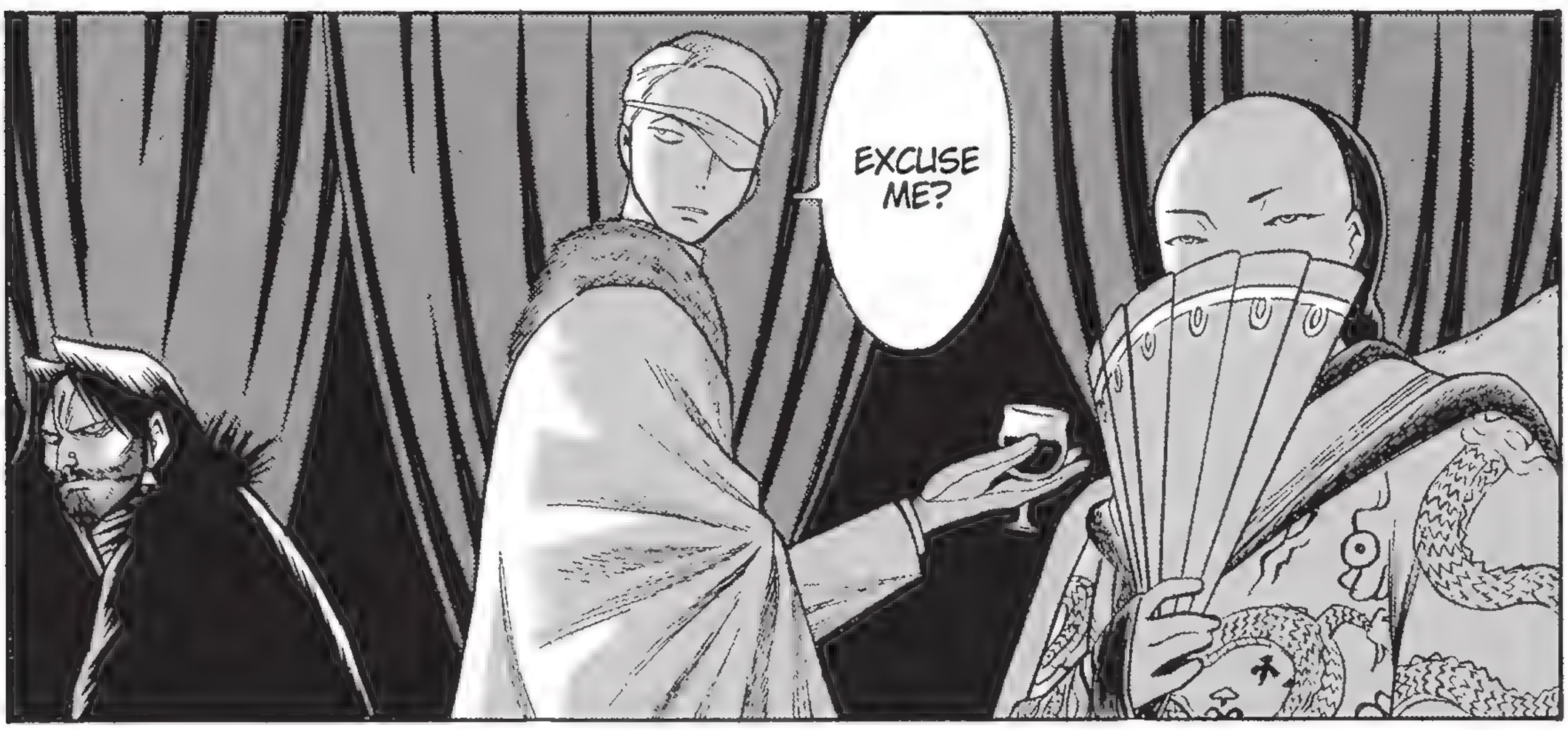
THIS IS FOR THE *GOOD OF* THE ROYAL HOUSE.

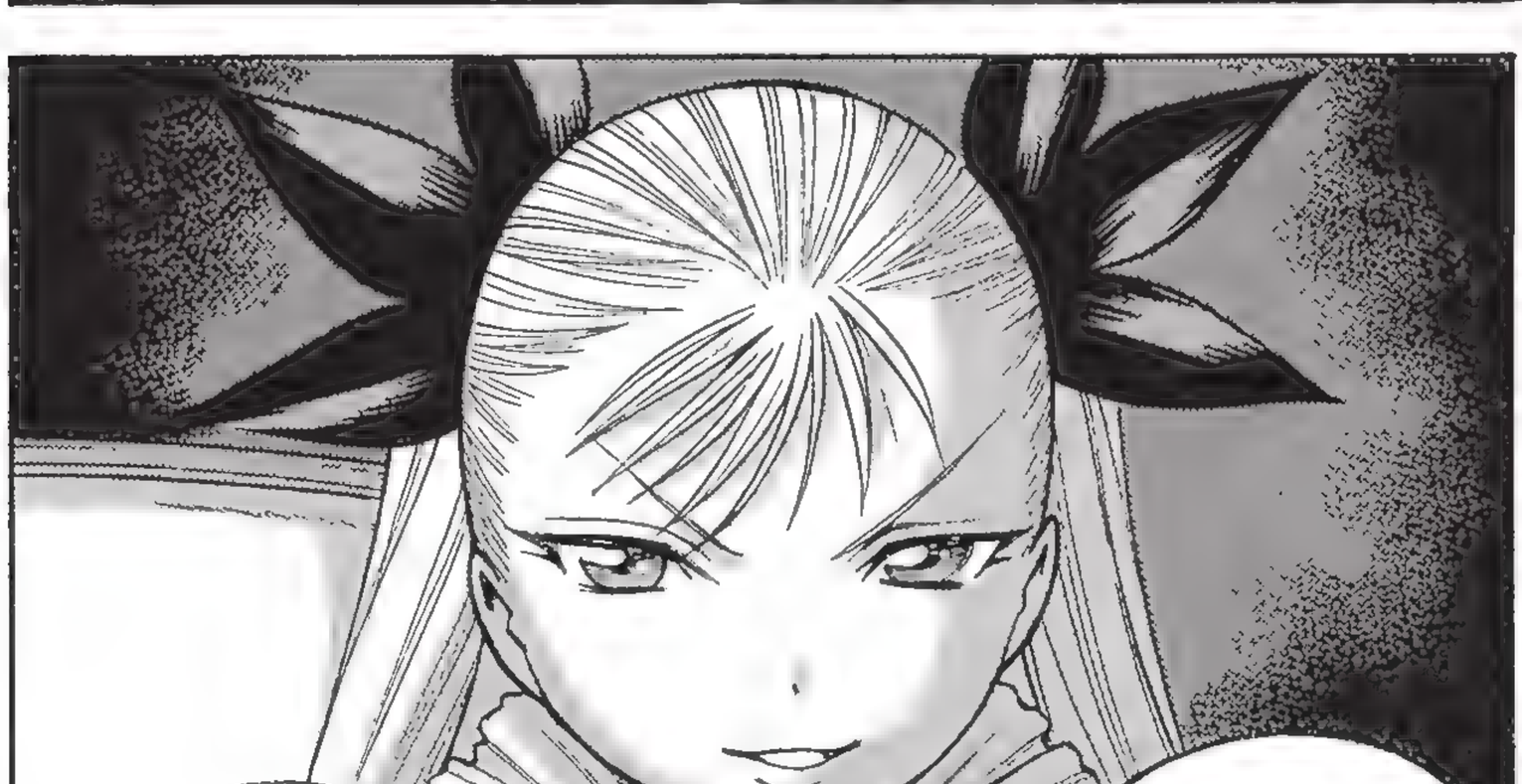
WELL, IN ANY CASE...

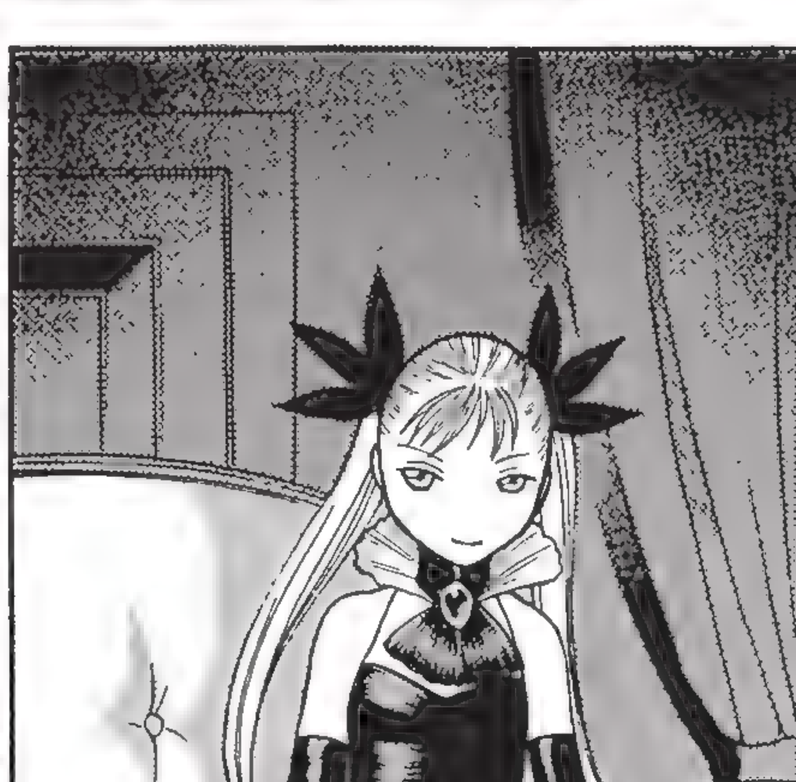
FOR THE *GOOD OF* THE HOUSE, INDEED.

WE'LL LEAVE IT AT THAT.




EXCUSE ME?


ONLY NATURALLY, THE STAKES ARE ME AND MY ENTIRE FUTURE.
I AM HERE TO BET ON AKIRA SURVIVING THE FIGHT.


I SAID I WANT IN ON YOUR BET, GENTLEMEN.

YOUR MAJESTY PAID QUITE A DEAR PRICE FOR THAT WEREWOLF CUB...

HEH.

HAH HAH ...

THE ODDS ARE RATHER *AGAINST* YOU.

BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT WISE?

TWITCH

HOW CAN I FACE HIM, WHEN HE'S FIGHTING ALL ALONE?

IF I'M NOT WILLING TO TAKE THIS RISK...

IN-DEED.

YET THOSE WERE THE TERMS OF THE ORIGINAL BET. ALSO...

WE ACCEPT.

AS YOU WISH...

LET US SEE...

IF HE CAN CHEW THROUGH THE NET OF **DEATH** IN WHICH WE'VE ENSNARED HIM.

IT SHALL BE *ENTER-TAINING* AT THE VERY LEAST.

CRASH

UGH ...

SHLAK

SHLAK

SPLAT

CAN'T FIND A WAY AROUND IT...

DAMN... SHE'S GOING ALL PLASTIC AGAIN...

SHAN

SHLAK

SHLAK

RIIIP

SHIOF

!

KABURAGI AKIRA.

A DEAL...?

I WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO LIVE.

ALL FOR A SIMPLE BARGAIN.

HEAR ME, KABURAGI AKIRA.

DURING THE BATTLE IN THE SKY-SCRAPER...

MINA-HIME SHOWED COMMANDER HYSTERICA SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT.

TELL ME OF THIS SECRET.

A SECRET...?

HIME-SAN DID SAY THAT HYSTERICA SAW HER TRUE FORM...

COULD THAT BE IT?

WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?!

THAT IS NONE OF YOUR CONCERN.

YOU SHOULD ACCEPT THIS OFFER.

!

MY MASTER IS WILLING TO *SPARE* YOUR LIFE, ALL FOR A *SMALL PIECE* OF INFORMATION.

YOU COULD LEAVE HERE AND THEN DO AS YOU WISH.

MY REASON FOR PURSUING YOU WOULD *VANISH.*

GRUNG!

SQUEEK

NOT ON YOUR LIFE!!

SQUEEK

SO YOU'RE TELLING ME...

TO SELL HER OUT?!

GRUMBLE

CRACKLE

THUD

KA-BROOSH

SHAAAA

CRACKLE

CRACKLE

CRACKLE

KOOOSH

!

SHLUPP

SWIRL

SHLUPP

!

WHOOSH

YOU DAMN MONS-TER!

AKIRA.

NO...

IT CAN'T BE...

GRAHAM.

IT'S ME, AKIRA.

HE'S...

YOU CAN'T BE GRAHAM.

NO...

THOK

FWSH

YOU KILLED HIM.

THAT'S RIGHT. THIS BOY IS DEAD.

YOU LAID YOUR HAND ON THIS BLAMELESS BOY.

UGH ...

STOP IT!

YES!

KILL ME!!

TWITCH

KILL ME AGAIN !!

THAT WINTER DAY!

ON THE MOUN-TAIN, IN THE DEEP SNOW!

DO IT AGAIN, JUST LIKE ON THAT DAY!

I...

I...

TUNK!

SINK YOUR FANGS INTO THIS THROAT ...

RIP IT OUT !!!

THOK

KILL ME!

KILL ME!!

SPLOSH

KILL ME!!!

SHLOKK

YOU CAN'T.

AAHHH

YOU CAN'T KILL ME.

YOU'RE *USELESS.*

YOU CAN'T KILL EVEN *ONE* WEAK-LING.

OH, I'LL STOP... WHEN YOU TELL ME HER SECRET.

PLEASE... STOP...

STOP...

HUFF

HUFF

GYAHHHH !!!

JAB JAB JAB

SHF

SHF

ARGH!

SHLAK

SHLUP

SHINK

SHINK

TSK.

HEH ...

AKIRA
...

HIME...
SA...

HI...

I'M
PROUD
OF YOU,
AKIRA.

YOU'VE
ENDURED
SO
MUCH.

HIME-SA...

YOU CAN SAY IT.

JUST TELL ME...

I UNDER-STAND.

BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW.

AND THEN YOU CAN SLEEP.

DON'T YOU DARE...

USE THAT VOICE...

NOT YOU...

GRAB

NEVER...

HER VOICE...

RIP

CRACK

CRACK

AGH!

AAH!

THAT BODY IS NOT...

AND THAT BODY...

RIIP

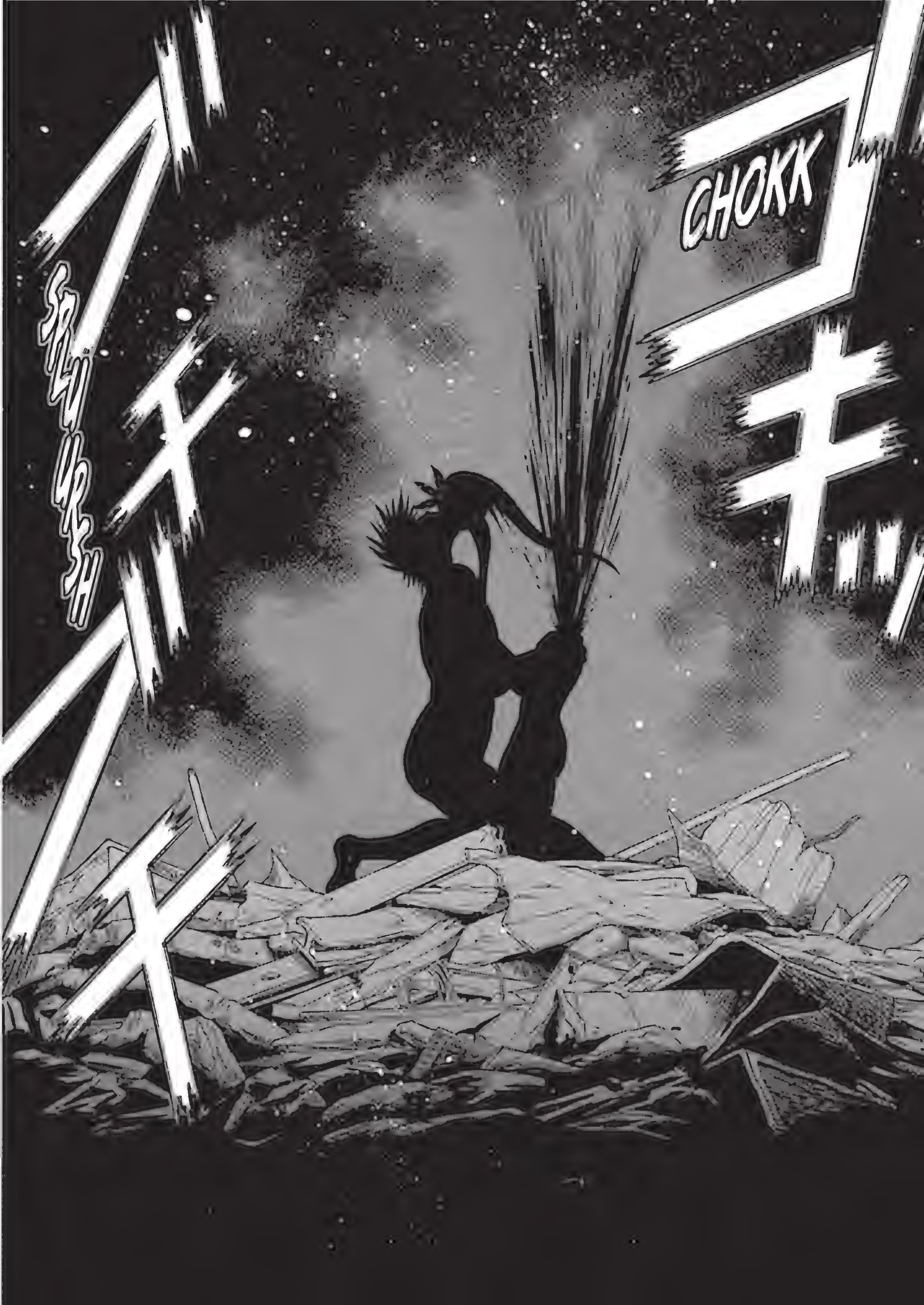
SCRATCH

CRACK

CRACK

SNAP

AHH


CHOKK
SPLASH

AKIRA...

DON'T DIE...

HIME-SAN...

TWITCH

WHEEZE

HIME-SAN.

TWITCH

HUFF

HIME-SAN.

HUFF

SHUDDER

HIME-SAN...

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 5

Dance In The Vampire Band

The star of fate sleeps within your breast.
Look only to yourself for rescue.
Resolve———

She alone is your Goddess.



SKR EE EECH

!

THEY SAY EVERYBODY HAS SEVEN SECRETS...

BUT I GUESS I'M KIND OF LAME. I'VE ONLY GOT TWO.

HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF

A CHILD WAS HIT BY A CAR!

WHAT HAPPENED ?

NO!

NOOO!

MAA-KUN! MAA-KUN!

10 SECONDS SINCE THE ACCIDENT ...

I CAN STILL MAKE IT!!

FLIKK

08:03:39

08:03:40

ZAAA

ZAAA

ZI ING

30 Second Sprinter

WHOOSH

TMD

RING

AL-RIGHT!

08:03:10

I'M BACK! 30 SECONDS BEFORE!!

!

NOO!!

DASH

WHAM

TUMBLE

THUD

HEY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING WITH MY SON?!

OH! UM ...

WAAAAAH!

UH...

WHEW! JUST IN TIME!

……

HE WAS NOT!

HE DID. THEN 30 SECONDS LATER...

HE WAS ABOUT TO GO INTO THE STREET...

ER... HE WAS ABOUT TO BE HIT BY A CAR...

LIAR! YOU TACKLED HIM!

HEY!

GET BACK HERE!

I'M SORRY! GOTTA GO NOW!

THIS IS MY FIRST SECRET.

HAVE THE ABILITY TO TRAVEL THROUGH TIME.

I, TOYAMA ARISU...

SHF

I CAN ONLY GO BACK 30 SECONDS, THOUGH...

A FIRE?!

SHAA

GRACK

FWOOSH

YAMADA-SAN, LOOK!

OH!

FOOOSH

RMBLE

IT'S A WEIRD POWER... BUT SOMETIMES IT COMES IN HANDY.

EEEK~!

EX-CUSE ME!

I'M SORRY!

THIEF!

I DON'T GET THANKED VERY OFTEN.

EEP!

WHO'RE YOU?

SADLY...

WHEW!

.....

I HEARD YOU GOT INTO ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE THIS MORNING.

LOOK, TOYAMA, WHAT'S GOING ON?

AND THEN YOU'RE LATE? WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING REALLY WEIRD LATELY.

I'M GONNA HAVE TO TALK TO YOUR PARENTS OVERSEAS...

YOU WERE SO DEPRESSED THAT YOU QUIT TRACK...

TO BE HONEST, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.

.....

SO... IS IT BROKEN?

UGH...

KI... KISHITANI-KUN!

UM...

NOT REALLY...

EHEH.

IS YOUR ALARM CLOCK BROKEN OR SOME-THING?

YOU'RE LATE A LOT LATELY.

I GUESS EVEN YOU OVERSLEEP, HUH, TOYAMA-SAN?

OH, OKAY.

KISHITANI-KUN'S IN MY CLASS.

YOU'RE PRETTY FAST, AREN'T YOU, TOYAMA-SAN? LUCKY!

IT WAS AROUND WHEN I FIRST REALIZED THAT I HAD THIS POWER...

THUS, I DECIDED THAT I WOULD USE THIS POWER TO HELP PEOPLE.

IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO SOMEONE, YOU COULD DASH AHEAD AND GET THERE FIRST. I'M SO ENVIOUS!

THAT'S MY... OTHER SECRET.

KISHITANI IS VERY SPECIAL TO ME.

OH WELL.

I OVER-COOKED THE RAMEN...

AWWW!

DANG IT!

ZIIIIIPPP

TODAY AT NARITA AIRPORT, JAR FLIGHT 305 WAS CANCELLED DUE TO A REPORT OF A POSSIBLE EXPLOSIVE.

BEEP

BEEP

MY POWER'S REALLY HANDY FOR STUFF LIKE THIS...

YOU KNOW, FOR SMALL THINGS.

SLUURP

AHH. THAT'S GOOD NOW!

COULD THIS BE...?

HAD THE AIRCRAFT TAKEN OFF, THERE WAS A CHANCE A SERIOUS MALFUNCTION COULD HAVE OCCURRED DURING FLIGHT.

IN THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION, NO SIGNS OF AN EXPLOSIVE WERE FOUND, BUT THERE WAS AN ANOMALY DISCOVERED IN THE AIRCRAFT'S LEFT ENGINE.

MFN Messenger
Add
Invite
Send File
Call
Email
Status
Arisu (Online)
You have a message from Usagi.
FONT
WINK
SEND
AH! A MESSAGE FROM USAGI-SAN!!
YO-HO!
BLING
Good work out there today.
USAGI...
WHEN I FIRST DISCOVERED MY "POWER," HE FOUND ME THROUGH A MESSAGE BOARD.
TK TK TK TK
oh, i'm still just starting out. were you the one that saved that plane?
WOW, AMAZING ...
BUT I'M NOT EVEN IN THE SAME LEAGUE AS HIM. HE CAN JUMP **HOURS** AT A TIME, AND HE'S SAVED HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE.
TK TK
HE'S A "JUMPER," LIKE ME.
BLING
Heh, you saw that?
I made it somehow.
It was a pretty rough way to do things, but if I'd screwed around, things would've gotten messy.

I KNOW, I KNOW.

THANKS TO *THAT*, I WAS LATE TO SCHOOL AGAIN.

For now, don't jump more than twice at a time.

BUT HE'S MY TEACH-ER.

I'VE NEVER MET HIM...

Message from Usagi (09:07)

Don't be impatient.
Your power is still growing.
As it does, you'll be able to jump farther and farther.

.....

Your body won't be able to take any more than that.

There are jumpers that have jumped too far and died.

I CAN'T IMAGINE BEING ABLE TO SAVE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE.

JUST 30 SECONDS... THAT'S HARDLY ANYTHING.

DOES MY POWER HAVE ANY KIND OF PUR-POSE?

HEY, USAGI-SAN...

TK TK TK

I CAN'T EVEN SAVE *ONE* PERSON PROPERLY.

SCARS OF THE EARTHQUAKE REMAIN

Rescue efforts are lagging

It's the wall that everyone with this power runs into.

We sacrifice a lot to fulfill our duty, yet we're never thanked.

Because the people we save never know the danger that might have befallen them.

BLING

You want to feel like you're actually helping people.

AND KIND OF LONELY...

TKK TKK

IT'S A TOUGH ROLE, THOUGH.

maybe... now?

IRR ZZ

IRR ZZ

Don't be depressed, though. Just keep at it, and you'll get your reward one day.

when...?

Who can say?

BLEEP

TKK

It's the fate of the hero to fight without thought of thanks. Take Spider-Man.

Not always. Things have been rocky.

BUT PETER HAD MJ.

Message: [1/23]
From: KISHITANI-KUN
Date: 6/15 9:20
Subject: Tomorrow mornin

Want to go to school together tomorrow, to make sure you won't be late? I'll be waiting at the corner of 3rd Street.

---END---

NO WAY!

PLIP

A TEXT...?

Message: [1/23]
KISHITANI-KUN
6/15 9:20

HOW'D YOU KNOW I WAS GONNA GET A MESSAGE ?!

TAP TAP

WOW, USAGI-SAN!

Well, I do have superpowers. (^_^)

NO WAY!

I'M SO HAPPY~!

SQUEE!

alright,
now to get some sleep...

OH NO!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I OVER-SLEPT *TODAY* OF ALL DAYS!

I WON-DER...

IF KISHITANI-KUN'S ALREADY THERE ...?

SHF

FWOOSH

BOOM

EEK!

FWROOM

SKREECH

CRASH

UGH!

AH!

LOOK !!

AN EARTH-QUAKE ...?

THE CORNER WHERE I WAS MEETING KISHITANI-KUN...!

THAT'S...

WAAAAH!

NO...

BUSH

HEY, COME BACK!

KISHI-TANI-KUN !!

STOP !!

A CAR RAN INTO A STOPPED TANKER TRUCK AT THE INTER-SECTION!!

WHAT HAP-PENED ?!

GOD ONLY KNOWS HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE CALIGHT IN IT!!

IT'S A SEA OF FLAME DOWN THERE!!

!

THUD

GAH!

FLOP

KOFF

KOFF

HE WAS LATE...

HE'S ALL RIGHT... KISHITANI-KUN'S ALL RIGHT...

HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE IN A HELLISH PLACE LIKE THIS...

HE HASN'T GOTTEN HERE YET...

HEY...

IT CAN'T BE... KISHITANI-KUN...

ゴゴゴ... FWOOOM

KISHI-TANI-KUN...

EVEN IF IT'S ONLY 30 SECONDS.

I MIGHT STILL BE ABLE TO HELP...

PLEASE!!

ALL I NEED IS 30 SECONDS...

KKKILLING

SHAA

HI!!

USE-LESS ...

30 SECONDS JUST ISN'T...

I CAN'T SAVE ANYONE !!

30 SECONDS ISN'T LONG ENOUGH...

Don't jump more than twice at a time.

There are jumpers that have jumped too far and died.

Your body won't be able to take it.

GRAB

JUST WAIT HERE, KISHITANI-KUN...

I'LL SAVE YOU, I PROMISE!

ZUNGT

I'LL SAVE YOU ALL!!

YOU AND EVERYONE ELSE...

JUMP!!

FURTHER!

LONGER!!

ONE MORE TIME !!!

MORE!!

AGAIN...

AND AGAIN...!

STUMBLE

HUFF

HUFF

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

I MADE IT BACK...!

HUFF

HUFF

I DID IT...!

HUFF

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

GOOD THING WE PULLED OVER.

IT'S LEAKING.

THE ACCIDENT... HASN'T HAPPENED YET.

KISHITANI-KUN'S NOT HERE EITHER...

URRRRH

SO THAT'S WHY HE HIT THE TANKER...!

A CELL PHONE!!

THAT'S THE CAR!!

TWINGE

AHH!

I'VE GOT TO GET HIM TO LOOK UP.

ONE MORE JUMP...

THEN I HAVE NO CHOICE!

GULP...

IF THAT'S THE CASE...

HUFF

HUFF

NOT EVEN FOR ONE SECOND...

IT'S NO GOOD... I CAN'T JUMP AGAIN...

HUFF

HUFF

WAAAIT!!

ドカ

STOP THAT CAR!

STOP!!

SKRT

I DID IT...!!

BEEE



I...

DID IT...

KISHI...

TANI...

KU...

SPLAT

SKREEECH

ZIIING

ARISU !!

HUH?

HAH

WHAM

SKREECH

TUMBLE TUMBLE TUMBLE

HUFF HUFF HUFF

UM...

WHEN I GOT TO THE SPOT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO MEET AT, I SAW YOU ABOUT TO GET HIT BY THE CAR...

SO I FREAKED OUT AND JUMPED...

HUH?

THAT WAS *CRAZY*, WHY DID YOU...?!

KISHI-TANI-KUN?!

ARISU !!

!!

WELL...

.....

BLUSH

UGH... THIS IS SO CORNY!!

I WANTED TO PICK A BETTER MOMENT TO TELL YOU...

ARE YOU... USAGI?

IT'S BEING A *HERO.*

NO... IT'S NOT.

LOOK.

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M NOT THE HERO HERE.

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAVED ALL THOSE PEOPLE, ALTHOUGH THEY'LL NEVER KNOW IT.

YOU DID A GREAT JOB.

HEY, USAGI?

HM?

WHEN DID YOU REALIZE I WAS A JUMPER?

IT WAS... RIGHT AFTER YOUR POWER AWAKENED.

RIGHT AFTER?! HOW DID YOU FIGURE IT OUT?

WELL... I'D BEEN WATCHING YOU A LOT.

WATCHING *ME*? WHY?

WELL, UM... YOU SEE...

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE *BOTH* GONNA BE LATE TODAY.

THAT'S FINE.

UP TO NOW, WE'VE BEEN RIGHT ON TIME.

30 SECOND SPRINTER – THE END

STAFF

JUGGERNAUT

KOU HAYASHIKANE

TAKASHI KOMATSU

KENICHI NAKAMONO

SPECIAL THANKS

HIROSHI YAGUMO



DANCE with the VAMPIRE MAID

IN THIS EPISODE, THE GREATEST MYSTERY OF ALL IS SOLVED! THE ORIGIN OF HIME-SAMA'S JOKE!

"WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, JORUJU? YOUR **** IS IN MY MOUTH."

"OOGYU, WHY AM I NOT WEARING ANY UNDER-WEAR?"

THAT JOKE IS *FILTHY!*

AND FROM SUCH A CUTE FACE...

OR WAS IT SWANI ...?

SO... ACCORD-ING TO WHAT MELANIE SAID...

UNAC-CEPT-ABLE SET-UP!

NEXT !!

WHEN SHE GOT IN THE BACK, SHE...

SO THIS HAP-PENED TO MY FRIEND ...

GIGGLE

YOU CAN'T LAUGH *BEFORE* THE PUNCH-LINE!

NEXT!!

WHAT HAP-PENED, ANYWAY ?

WELL, IT'S HARD WHEN YOU JUST SAY, "TELL ME A FUNNY JOKE."

I CAN'T USE *ANY* OF THESE!!

IT'S USE-LESS !!

VERA.

DO YOU KNOW ANY GOOD JOKES?

EASY, EASY.

JUST LET THAT JERK SUFFER FOR A WHILE!!

HMPH!

AKIRA'S BEEN SO QUIET LATELY, I WANTED TO MAKE HIM LAUGH...

SNOORT

MUSTACHE !!

THIS ONE CAN'T LOSE! A HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW, THIS JOKE WILL *STILL* BE FUNNY!

SHE USED HIME-SAMA'S **CUTENESS** TO AN ADVANTAGE!

IT'S SO CASUAL, BUT WITH SUCH DESTRUC-TIVE POWER!!

W-WOW! VERA-SAMA'S AMAZING!

HIME-SAMA'S SENSE OF HUMOR IS TRULY REFINED! ♡

H-HOW GOOD DOES IT HAVE TO BE...?

EH?!

HMMMM.

IT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH ...

SNICKER

DO YOU WANT TO HEAR IT?!

I REMEMBERED THE AMAZING JOKE A FRIEND TOLD ME EARLIER!

THIS WILL CRACK UP AKIRA FOR SURE!

AH HA HA HA HA! I JUST REMEMBERED IT!

?

TELL US!

Y-YES!

PLEASE DO!

WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD?!

I WONDER IF SHE GETS IT...?

WHO KNOWS ...

IT KILLS ME EVERY TIME I HEAR IT!

ISN'T IT FUNNY?!

AS YOU SAY, HIME-SAN.

THE ANSWER: BECAUSE YOUR JOKE WAS SO AWFUL!

SEE YOU IN VOLUME 5!

THAT'S WHAT YOU'D SAY TO ANYONE ELSE WHO TELLS BAD JOKES... BUT NOBILITY MUST BE HUMORED.

生まれ変わる音

Dunkel ist das Leben, wenn Licht ist...

Life is dark...



The remaining continue their relentless assault!

残る二人の刺客の手が
容赦なく襲い掛かる!

The present of Akira's body closes in on the past within his mind...

アキラの肉体を“現在(いま)”が
精神を“過去”が追いつめていく…

On sale Winter 2009!

死なない

Death, still darker.

苦悩

次巻三支族編クライマックス!!!

Be here for the climax of the tale of the three clans!

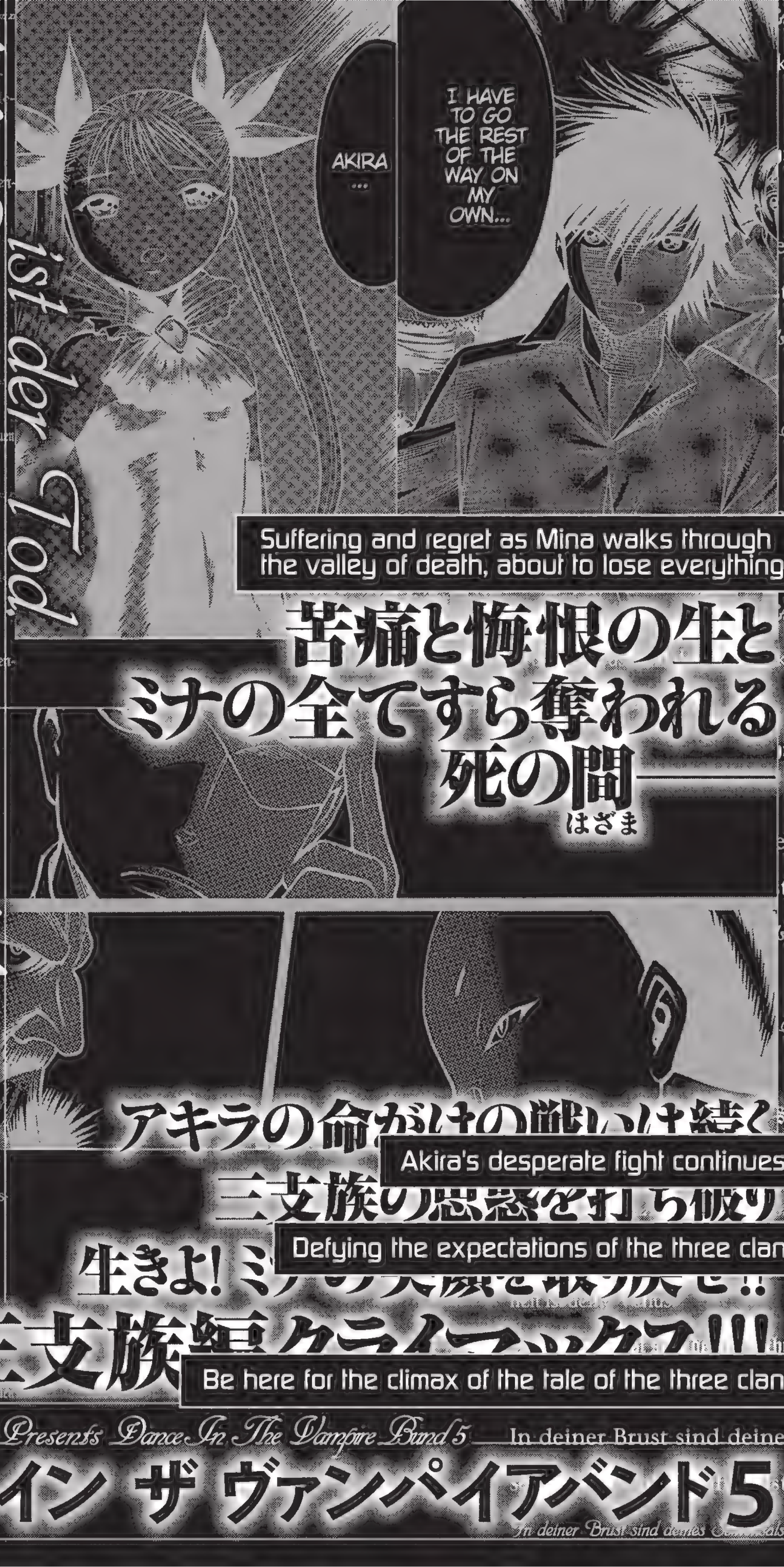
生きよ! ミナの矜持と報恩!!

Defying the expectations of the three clans!

アキラの命がけの戦いは続く

Akira's desperate fight continues...

三支族の思惑を打ち破り



Suffering and regret as Mina walks through the valley of death, about to lose everything.

ミナの全てすら奪われる死の間

はざま

Tamaki Nozomu Presents Dance In The Vampire Bund 5

ダンス イン ザ ヴァンパイアバンド 5



Dance in the Vampire Bund

Volume 4

story & art by Nozomu Tamaki

STAFF CREDITS

translation Paul Tuttle Starr
adaptation Janet Houck
retouch & lettering Roland Amago
cover design Nicky Lim
layout Bambi Eloriaga-Amago
copy editor Shanti Whitesides
editor Adam Arnold

publisher Seven Seas Entertainment

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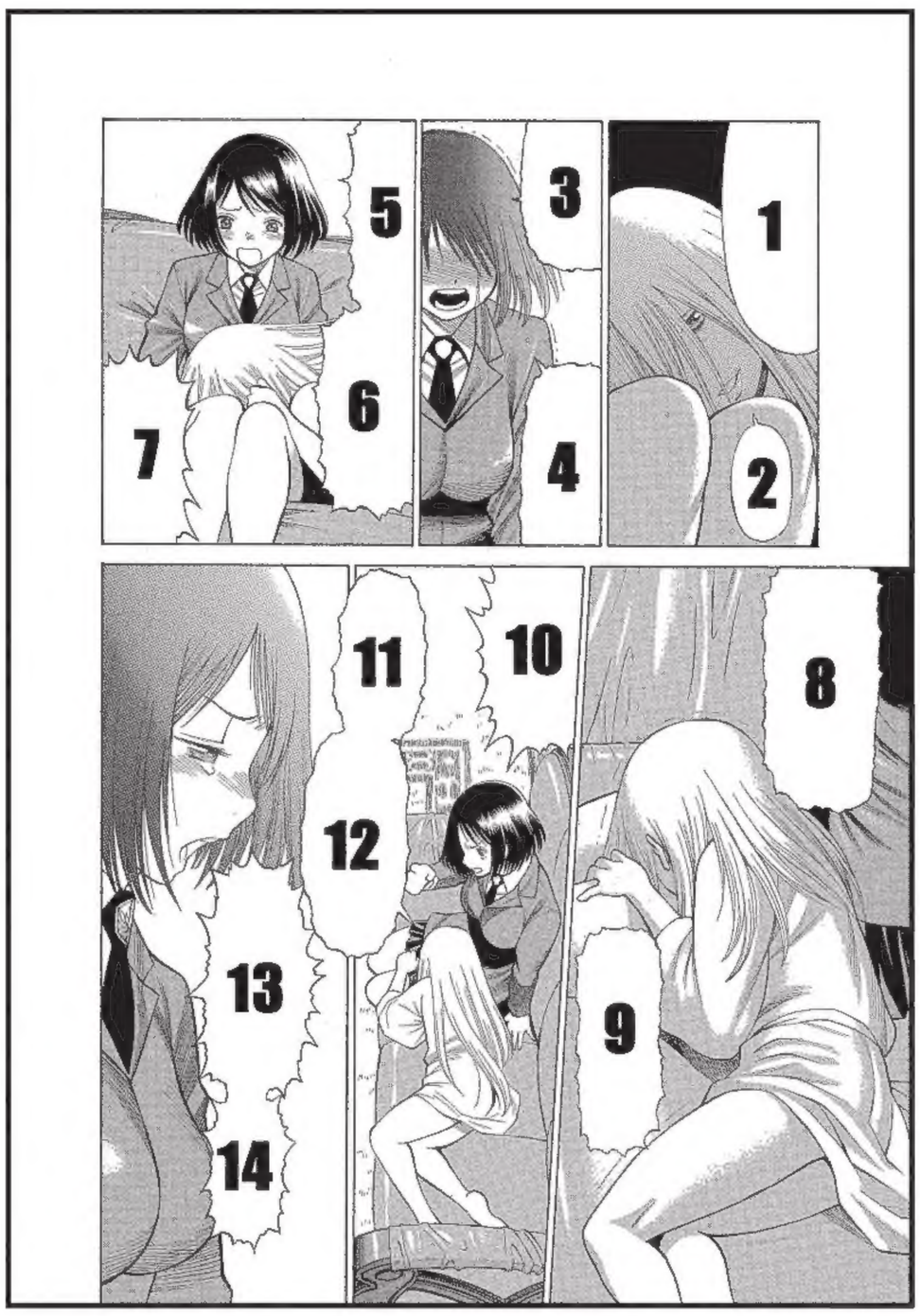
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THE END

YOU'RE READING THE WRONG WAY

This is the last page of
Dance in the Vampire Bund
Volume 4



This book reads from right to left, Japanese style. To read from the beginning, flip the book over to the other side, start with the top right panel, and take it from there.

If this is your first time reading manga, just follow the diagram. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get used to it! Have fun!